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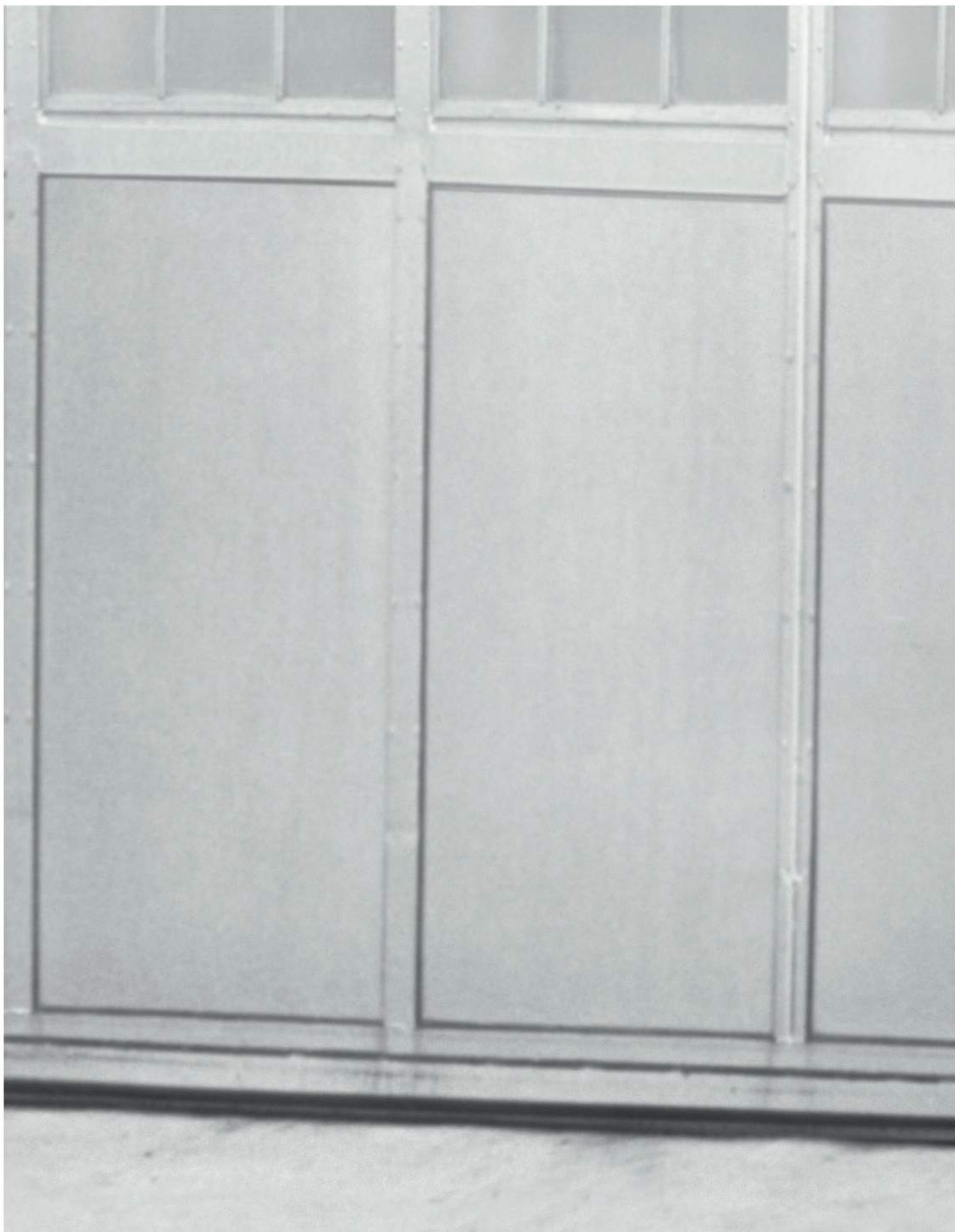
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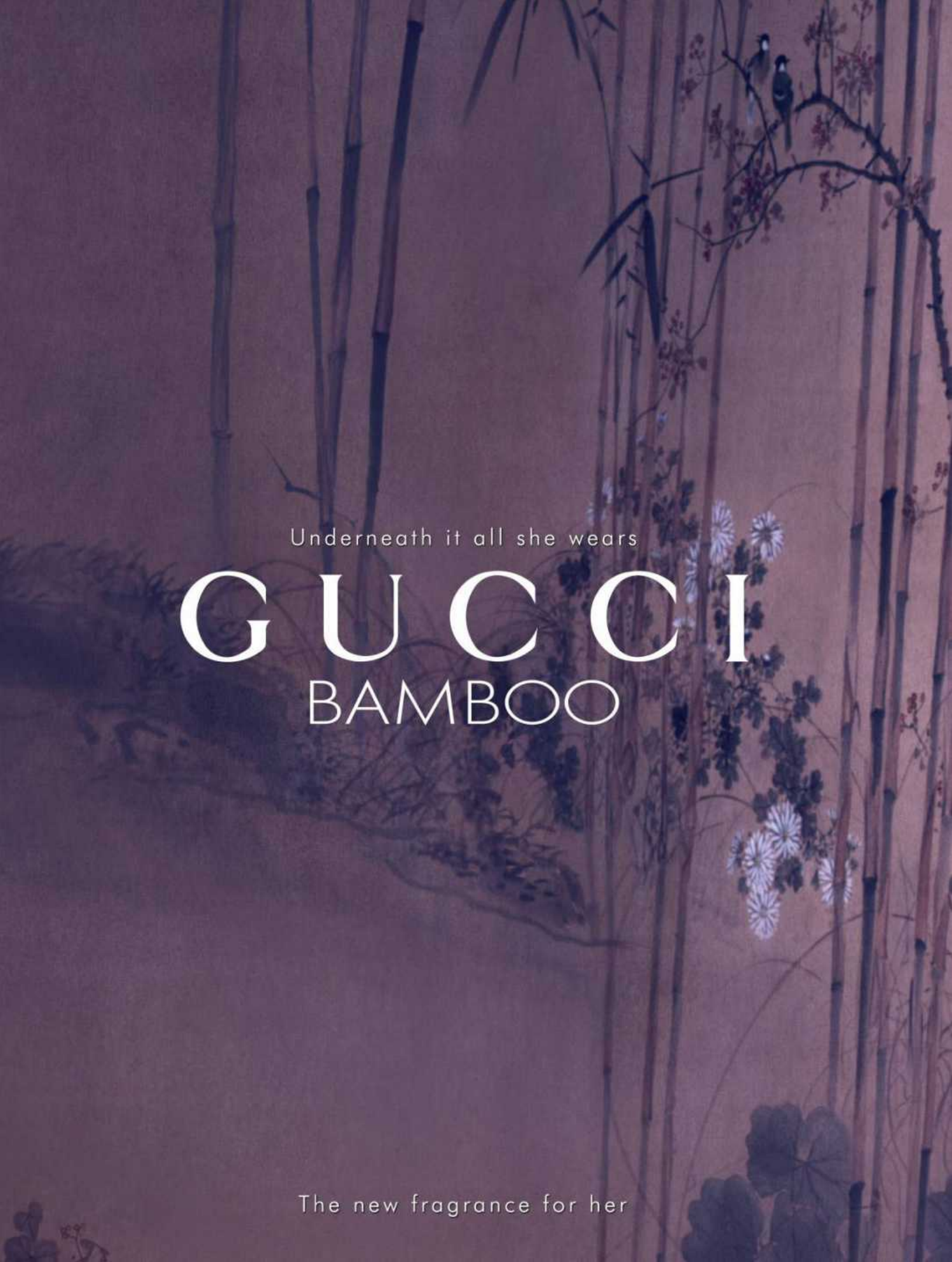
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The background of the advertisement is a traditional East Asian ink wash painting. It features several tall, slender bamboo stalks that run vertically across the frame. Interspersed among the bamboo are flowering branches with small, delicate blossoms, some of which are white and others a soft pink. In the upper right corner, two small birds are perched on a branch. The overall style is minimalist and elegant, with a focus on natural elements. The color palette is muted, consisting of various shades of brown, beige, and soft pink, giving it a classic and sophisticated feel.

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p236

*She's got the power:
Miley Cyrus gets real on
sexuality, gender and love*

STREET

Brooklyn girls

Fall for the retro
style of New York's
toughest borough

p211



p293

*Bold shapes and
strong colours:
this season's coat is all
about making
a statement*

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FIRST look



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Fashion, beauty, culture

What to read, hear,
watch and shop all month

OCTOBER

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What fragrance type are you?
Plus, the best new gloss



FEATURES

The ELLE 30 under 30

Meet the game-changing
women who've achieved loads
- all before their 30th birthdays

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Photography: Jamie Bevan, Ben Morris, Aaron Stern, Jeff Thibodeau, Aaron Tilley. Model wears: Wool-mix coat, price on request; Boss Wool dress, £1,430; Peter Pilotto Gold earrings, £395, and large gold-plated cuff, £280, both Alexis Bittar. Leather gloves, £250, LaCrasia. For shopping details, see Address Book.



A woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark beret, a green and red plaid coat over a black turtleneck, a black skirt, and black boots, stands in front of a shop window. She is holding a black bag. The shop window has a sign that says "1612" and "HAT MAKERS".

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ELLE

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Rodarte

THE COVER



Photography: Matt Irwin. Fashion: Alison Edmond. Hair: Andy LeCompte for Wella Professionals at The Wall Group. Make-up: Sabrina Bedrani at Tracey Mattingly using Dior. Manicure: Stephanie Stone at Nailing Hollywood using Chanel. Talent: Miley Cyrus. Set design: Lauren Machen at Redeye Reps. On-set production: glampr.com. Film: Duy Nguyen at Mondial Creative. With thanks to: Milk Studios. The team stayed at the Hotel Palomar, Beverly Hills (hotelpalomar.beverlyhills.com). **On the cover:** Cotton and silk jacket, and matching trousers, both Emporio Armani. Gold linear earring, and silver linear earring, both Alex Monroe. All other jewellery, Miley's own. Skin: Diorskin Star Foundation in Light Beige, £32.50; Diorskin Nude Shimmer in Amber, £38; Diorblush Cosmopolite Cheek Stick in Coral, £24. Eyes: Diorshow Brow Styler Pencil in Universal Brown, £19; Diorshow Pro Liner in Pro Brown, £20; Diorshow Mascara in Pro Black, £25. Lips: Dior Addict Fluid Stick in Versaille, £26.50. All Dior. Nails: Chanel Le Vernis Nail Colour in 167 Ballerina, £18. Published 3 September 2015

Photography: Kai Z Feng.

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Tonal Pink Suede Puzzle Bag, 2015



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PETER LINDBERGH, 1994

ALEXANDER FURY

Alexander is Fashion Editor of *The Independent*, *i* and *The Independent on Sunday*. Born in 'the frozen tundra' of Bolton, he lives in east London ('too cool for me, but the rabbit likes it'). After 'a strange fling with investment banking', he found fashion: 'There wasn't much of a choice - I'm not terribly good at anything else.' He estimates he spends about a third of his year watching catwalk shows. Alexander writes about film director Wes Anderson's influence on fashion on page 179.

#ELLEBookClub pick:
Madame Bovary by
Gustave Flaubert

[@ALEXANDERFURY](#)



LOU STOPPARD

Writer Lou studied history at Oxford before embracing her love of Pulp by moving to London to do an MA at Central Saint Martins. She's been writing about fashion ever since, and now edits Nick Knight's showstudio.com. An avowed bad cook, she keeps wine, strawberries and cheese in her fridge. Lou's teen crush was Julian Casablancas from The Strokes ('I'd still kiss him') and she loves receiving books as gifts. Lou compiled the *What Makes A Woman?* portfolio on page 252.

#ELLEBookClub pick:
Prayers For The Stolen
by Jennifer Clement

[@LOUSTOPPARD](#)

#ELLEINSPIRE

*'Never let go of
that fiery sadness
called desire'*

- PATTI SMITH

KIRSTIN PIGGOTT

Make-up artist Kirstin was born in Wales and lives in east London. She taught make-up at the London College of Fashion, while freelancing and assisting Charlotte Tilbury. Her plan B was to be a florist, surrounded by colour and beautiful scents all day. Kirstin can't live without Rimmel Wake Me Up Mascara. She did the make-up for *Retro/Super/Future* on page 308.

#ELLEBookClub pick:
Life of Pi by Yann Martel



MARCIN TYSZKA

Polish photographer Marcin feels lucky that he turned his passion into a career. He's shot some of the world's most beautiful women and his favourite subjects include Amber Valletta, Georgia May Jagger and Anja Rubik, whom he has captured countless times: 'I could create a huge book with the thousands of pictures we've shot together.' Marcin would like to meet the Greek god Apollo, 'to check if he was really that hot'. The best advice he's ever been given is to 'be nice to people'. Marcin shot *Dreaming Of Stevie* on page 318.

#ELLEBookClub pick:
Music For Chameleons
by Truman Capote

ELLE

THEY MADE THIS

OCTOBER 2015

BEAUTY SCHOOL

The ultimate guide to eyeliner: get it right every time, with our complete guide on page 350. Plus, how to do ladylike hair in real life (page 366) and the return of proper make-up (page 362).

WHAT ELLE WEARS

From the editors to the interns, see what we wear to work every week. Visit [elleuk.com/street-style](#) and let Team ELLE show you how to style the trends.



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A black and white photograph of a woman with long, wavy hair, looking directly at the camera. She is wearing a dark, strapless bikini top and matching dark underwear. Her hands are resting on her hips. The background is dark, and the lighting highlights her features and the texture of her hair.

the original sexy

Calvin Klein
underwear



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ELLE

OCTOBER

When ELLE first launched 30 years ago, we used the slogan, 'You can tell she reads ELLE.' This playful soundbite referred to the stylish way you, our readers, dressed then. Today, I think it also acknowledges your smart take on society as much as your love of fashion and beauty.

ELLE's voice has grown over the past three decades to encompass more, driven by the ever-curious nature of its intelligent and increasingly influential readers.

Your voice has become louder as you've debated feminism, politics and the whole range of emotional challenges women face.

I've tried to reflect this on the pages of your magazine and on the website with columnists who question the norm or eloquently express a feeling you may have encountered; with brave writers baring all so that you don't feel so alone, with in-depth reports on issues you need to know about but most glossy magazines don't cover and, of course, with a healthy dose of humour (the powerful secret weapon of women today).

It's been refreshing to see you react so positively to these features by talking to us at events and engaging online.

I was particularly proud to discover that ELLE readers were significantly more clued up about feminism than women in society in general when we conducted our Womanhood survey last year.

ELLE is here to reflect your needs and opinions, which is why in this, our 30th birthday issue, we are focusing on the voices of some game-changing women you need to know about today.

On page 282 I am proud to introduce our new team of contributing editors: the new ELLE voices, 10 talented women who will bring you the inside track on the issues that matter, from gender politics to fashionable food.

I first met our new Video Editor, Grace Campbell, when she was little. I used to sit next to her father Alastair Campbell at the *Daily Mirror* newspaper, where I was a features writer and he was Political Editor. This was before he became then-Prime Minister Tony Blair's right-hand



From far left: Editor-in-chief Lorraine Candy. Yasmin Le Bon on the November 1985 cover

Right: Cheryl Cole, August 2014. Below: Talisa Soto, May 1986



Far left: Jenny Howarth on the July 1986 cover, and (below centre) in February 1988. Near left: Lily Allen, October 2009



Below: Gwyneth Paltrow, March 2009. Katy Perry, September 2013

Right, from above: Courtney Love, January 2009. Kate Moss, January 1994



Right: Helena Christensen, September 1991



Left: The February 1986 cover. Right: Stephanie Seymour's August 1993 cover



ELLE

OCTOBER

EDITOR'S LETTER

[@LORRAINEELLE](#)

man at No.10. I have enjoyed watching Grace blossom into a quick-thinking young woman and, like the other new contributing editors we feature, she will be discovering fresh subjects and tackling issues you may not know about yet, which will undoubtedly affect your life.

I have been at ELLE for 11 years, during which I've had the privilege of spending time with many of the world's most famous designers, creative people whose way of thinking is often different from the norm. But one of the most impressive women I have met in the world of fashion is Clare Waight Keller, Chloe's Creative Director. What I find inspiring about Clare is the way she successfully combines a giant job with all the pressure of being a very present mother. When you start your career in any industry, you need role models who light the path ahead for you, and Clare is exactly this for new talent in fashion today.

I know you are going to love our feature *The ELLE 30 Under 30*: a host of women who are reshaping the way we think about the world today (page 272). This is not a power list, or a 'most ambitious' chart. It's a piece that will inspire you to maybe take a risk or two and follow your passion in life.

And I can't finish my editor's letter without mentioning one of the most unique, powerful voices on the planet today: Miley Cyrus. For me, Miley's way of communicating - personally and visually across social media - is the dawn of a bright new age. She promotes a refreshing kind of tolerance, a broader way of life, which is more inclusive of women from all kinds of backgrounds. It forces us all to think about our own opinions, which sometimes get stuck in a rut of predictable responses. I love to watch this passionate spirit grow in young women and to witness an army of new thinkers mobilise around them and mature alongside women like Miley. Read our revolutionary interview with her on page 236.

But no one woman can stand for all of us, which is why it is incredibly important we listen to *everyone*. We are all a work in progress and it's important we are tolerant enough to remember this. It will create a fairer world in which everyone's voice, especially yours, is heard.

Happy reading.

Lorraine

LORRAINE CANDY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Right: Benedict Cumberbatch, December 2014



Above: Anja Rubik, July 2015.
Above left: Cindy Crawford, December 1994



Above: Anja Rubik, July 2015.
Above left: Cindy Crawford, December 1994



Above: Naomi Campbell, September 1999



Clockwise from above: The Spice Girls, October 1997. Karl Lagerfeld, March 2012. Lily Allen, March 2014



Above: Madonna, May 2008.
Below: Alexa Chung, March 2012

From top: Famke Janssen, October 1989. Mary-Kate Olsen, September 2008. Right: Kristen Stewart, September 2015



Above, from left: Rebel Wilson, May 2015. David Beckham, July 2012. Rihanna, April 2013



Clockwise from above left: Anne Hathaway, November 2014. Miley Cyrus, October 2015. Emma Watson, December 2014



A black and white photograph of a woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a dark, high-necked dress. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. She is holding a small, dark, cylindrical bottle of Tom Ford Noir Pour Femme fragrance in her hands. The bottle has a gold-colored, ribbed cap and a label that reads 'TOM FORD NOIR'. In the bottom right corner, there is a larger, more detailed view of the same bottle, showing the gold cap with 'TF' on it and the label 'TOM FORD NOIR' and 'TOMFORD.COM'.

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#HOROSCOPE

discover your destiny & your month ahead

Forecast: The Saturn Sisters

Stefanie Iris Weiss

and **Sherene Schostak**

It's your birthday, Virgo!

LIBRA

24 SEPTEMBER-23 OCTOBER

Your month to: Perfect the art of balance

This is the month to get to the heart of your relationships. Introspection is a must if you want to keep your sanity. Others will place demands on your time and emotional energy, especially during the second half of the month. This intensity peaks on the 27th, so play it cool and be prepared. **Date for your diary: 15th** Be more rebel. Break all the rules in love and war.

SCORPIO

24 OCTOBER-22 NOVEMBER

Your month to: Own it

It's all about landing big-time goals this month, and your stars are aligning for you to kill it at work and play. The new moon/solar eclipse gives you the boost you need for major success. Communication is a bit wonky, but love and friendship balance the chaos. **Date for your diary: 30th** Be ambitious and ask for what you want.

SAGITTARIUS

23 NOVEMBER-22 DECEMBER

Your month to: Hit new creative heights

This month is a huge stepping stone to success, because the new moon/solar eclipse is the beginning of six months of major recognition. Keep your integrity in check and your game face on, and nothing can stop you. You're taking positive thinking to new levels. **Date for your diary: 11th** Regroup on Sunday so you're ready to attack the week.

CAPRICORN

23 DECEMBER-20 JANUARY

Your month to: Take a pause

You deserve some time out even if it's off-season. Others

may be getting back to work, but you need to unplug and reconnect this month. The full moon/lunar eclipse could feel extra stressful if you're not in your happy place (think beach or bed) on the 27th.

Date for your diary: 22nd

You're a creative genius. Work it.

AQUARIUS

21 JANUARY-19 FEBRUARY

Your month to: Think before you speak

Communication is confusing this month: expect to say what you mean a few times. The full moon/lunar eclipse could turn your mind upside down near the 27th, so you'll perfect the art of conflict resolution. Oh, and your relationships are pretty potent at the moment, too.

Date for your diary: 24th

Your drive and ambition will reach Kardashian levels.

PISCES

20 FEBRUARY-20 MARCH

Your month to: Redefine relationships

You're learning about the world of 'others' this month. Compassion is king and luckily it's your thing, but this month you may be more critical than usual. The new moon/solar eclipse could reveal more flaws than you'd care to admit. Remember to see people's virtues.

Date for your diary: 26th

Rose-tinted glasses are no bad thing today.

ARIES:

21 MARCH-20 APRIL

Your month to: Start something good

You'll feel the pace quickening from day one this month, Aries. A new moon/solar eclipse on the 13th favours new projects and gives your fitness regime a helpful boost. Love and creativity take a happy turn by mid-month. Hard work reaps results during the second half of September.

Date for your diary: 17th

Slow down, take stock. Revert to full throttle tomorrow.



VIRGO

24 AUGUST-23 SEPTEMBER

Your month to: Make that change

There's a lot of going backwards in order to move forward this season, Virgo. A potent new moon/solar eclipse takes place in your own constellation on the 13th. See to any and all projects (or people) waiting in the wings. It's yours for the taking. Let go of clutter and stay focused. The time is now.

Date for your diary: 12th

You'll race through a month of to-do's in 24 hours.

READ IT

To find out what your stars hold every day, check out elleuk.com/daily

TAURUS

21 APRIL-21 MAY

Your month to: Fall in love

September is all about pleasure and creativity. The stars align to make romance the headline act, and the new moon/solar eclipse on the 13th should help you express yourself for maximum effect. You're still working out a few nagging issues, Taurus; focus on what will make you happy.

Date for your diary: 4th

Think big or stay in bed.

GEMINI

22 MAY-21 JUNE

Your month to: Balance family and friends

Love could send you spinning, Gemini. The new moon/solar eclipse is an ideal opportunity to nail your career objectives. Communication is creative but challenging during the second half of September: keep your wits about you.

Date for your diary: 5th

Don't speculate; stick to the truth and it will all work out.

CANCER

22 JUNE-22 JULY

Your month to: Make your needs clear

Communication can get aggro this month, Cancer. Edit as you go, especially when text-based conversations test you. Balance becomes easier after the middle of the month. A full moon/lunar eclipse accelerates career success on the 27th.

Date for your diary: 29th

The planets are spelling your name in neon lights today.

LEO

23 JULY-23 AUGUST

Your month to: Make every day feel like payday

It's not that the party is necessarily over, but you want to get back to work. The new moon/solar eclipse on the 13th is favouring your bank balance. Your social life gets hectic as the month closes: work hard now so you can play hard later. Never take your talents for granted, Leo.

Date for your diary: 9th

One conversation could change your life forever.



AUTUMN WINTER 2015

EDITA SHOT AT ELSTREE FILM STUDIOS, LONDON - APRIL 10TH 2015
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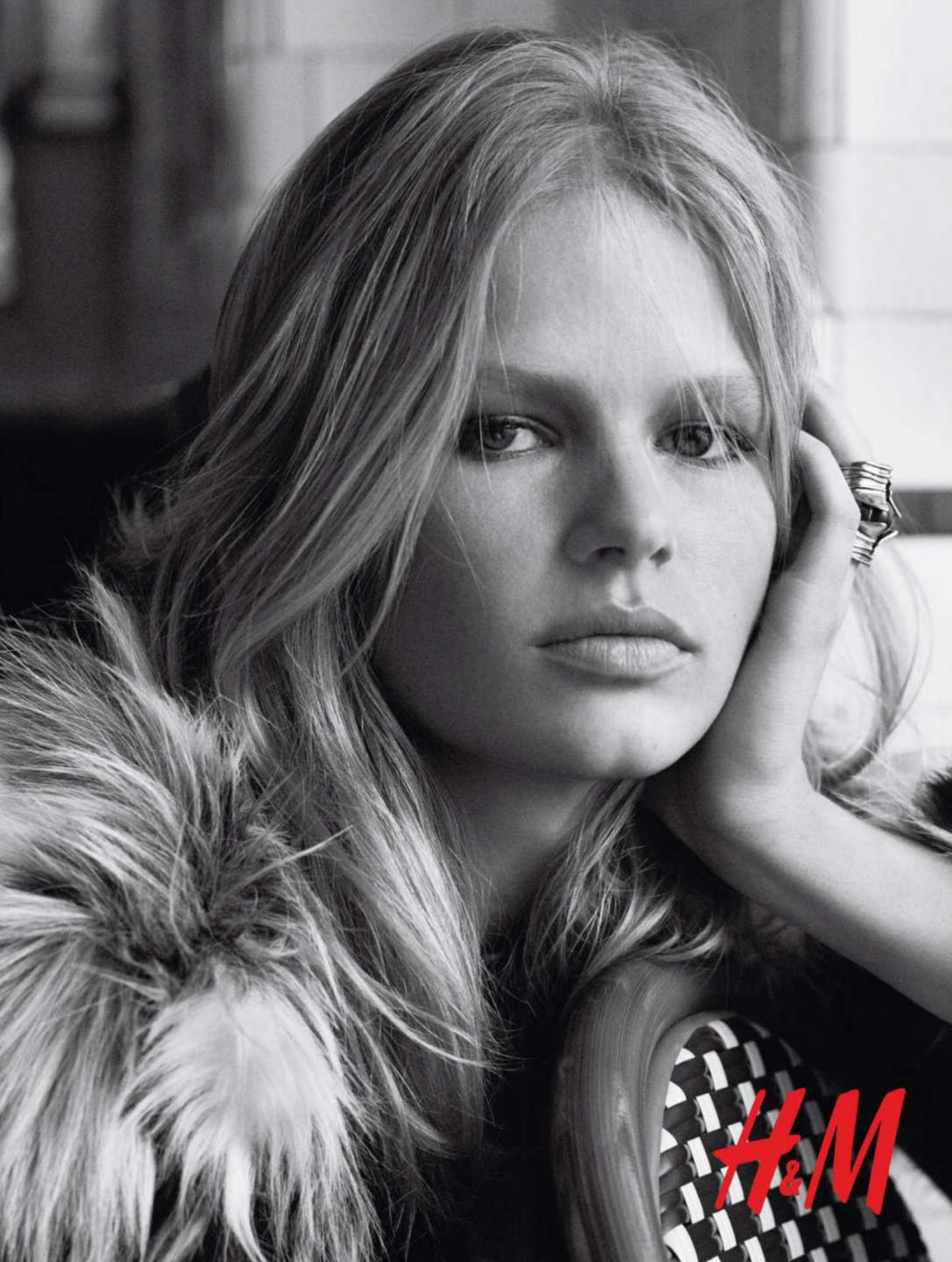


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THE GREAT COLOUR CONUNDRUM

This is Willow Hand opening the Prada show, in a look we're sure you'll agree is nothing short of inspired. Mrs Prada is definitely the season's game changer where unconventional colour is concerned. In this issue, you're going to learn to speak colour and embrace your inner kook. But first, buy your coat!

FIRST **look** ELLE

Dior



Suede boots, £310, Michael Michael Kors



Wool coat, £1,500, Whistles

STYLE NOTE
The deep 3D texture of this coat says edge, while the pale hue screams luxury.



Leather boots, £69.99, Zara

The coats AND BOOTS

OF THE SEASON

Long, textured coats in luxe neutrals and jewelled tones, and go-anywhere boots. These are your winter wardrobe transformers

Styling **Michelle Duguid** and **Donna Wallace**



Wool-mix coat, £160, Warehouse



Leather boots, £325, By Malene Birger

STYLE NOTE

A flat sole means business: when the weather gets serious, your style won't suffer.



Wool-mix coat, £80, River Island



Merino wool coat, £1,345, Essentiel Antwerp



Cotton-mix coat, £199, Boden



Patent-leather boots, £99.99, H&M



Leather boots, £145, & Other Stories

Photography: 3 Objectives, Sean Cunningham at Jason Lloyd-Evans.



Wool coat,
£615, Paul
Smith



Wool and
cotton
coat, £110,
Lindex



Wool and
silk-mix coat,
£1,005,
MaxMara



Leather boots,
£89.99, Mango

STYLE NOTE
This is a classic
shape, and the
gentle tones mean
it lends itself to
loads of colour
combinations.



Leather boots,
£129, Dune



Wool coat,
£135, Cos



Suede boots,
£940, Brian
Atwood



Wool-mix coat,
£295, Gant



Linen-mix coat,
£165, Finery



Leather-mix
boots, £495,
Paul Smith

STYLE NOTE
The cool and luxe
white boot is an easy
way to make any look
a little sportier. >



Wool coat, £645,
Paul & Joe

STYLE NOTE

This season, think of pale pink as a neutral - it's chic with black and navy, and equally well-paired with brighter shades.



Wool coat, £669, Luisa Cerano



Mohair coat, £650, Fleur B



Leather boots, £89, Topshop



Leather boots, £435, McQ



J.W. ANDERSON

Polyester-mix coat, £385, D.Efect



Wool-mix coat, £400, 2ndDay



Wool coat, £848, J & M Davidson



Wool coat, £499, Jaeger



Leather boots, £195, Whistles



Wool coat, £265, Harris Wharf London

STYLE NOTE
Grey is a foolproof daytime colour, but the height will take you through to the evening.



Suede boots, £75, River Island

WARDROBE TRANSFORMERS

Leather boots, £310, The Kooples

Wool-mix coat, £250, French Connection

Wool coat, £89.95, Gap

Suede boots, £660, Stuart Weitzman

Wool coat, £425, The Fold

Wool coat, £1,590, Sandro

Wool coat, £1,500, Jigsaw

Leather coat, £799, Hobbs

Suede boots, £315, Sandro

Leather boots, £120, Clarks

Wool coat, £210, Comptoir des Cotonniers

Wool-mix coat, £95, Oasis

STYLE NOTE
Skip the hosiery. High boots are the new tights.

STYLE NOTE
What could be more classic than a navy peacoat? You'll wear it year after year: worth investing in. >

FIRST look



STUART WEITZMAN





Wool-mix coat, £90, Next

Leather boots, £135, Camper



Wool and cotton coat, £605, See by Chloé

Wool and polyamide coat, £3,240, Mary Katrantzou



Faux-leather boots, £40, Next

STYLE NOTE

The fine material makes this the piece that will take you from autumn through to spring.



Wool coat, £460, Tara Jarmon

DEREK LAM



Wool coat, £1,850, Michael van der Ham

Suede boots, £355, Gerard Darel

STYLE NOTE

This double-breasted check is the perfect example of borrowing from the boys. ▶



Cotton-mix coat, £110, Asos

Leather boots, £515, Roland Mouret



Wool and polyester coat, £529, By Malene Birger

WARDROBE TRANSFORMERS



Ponyskin boots,
£299, Pretty
Ballerinas



Wool-mix coat, £165,
& Other Stories



Leather coat,
£1,095, Bally



Wool and
polyester coat,
£169, Monsoon



Vinyl and
shearling
coat, 315,
Maje



Wool-polymix coat,
£350, YMC



Polyamide coat,
£99.99, H&M



Leather
boots,
£200, Aldo



Wool coat, £685,
Woolrich



Wool-mix coat,
£165, & Other
Stories

STYLE NOTE

The duffle is
the coat of
our childhoods -
choosing black
makes it
grown-up. ●

STYLE NOTE

If you're looking for
an investment piece,
don't feel you have
to play it safe. This
colour is bold, but the
shape is timeless.



JIL SANDER

Photography: 3 Objectives, Jason Lloyd-Evans.
For shopping details, see Address Book.

GIVENCHY



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ROXSANDA

BOTTEGA VENETA

JIL SANDER

DIOR

J.W. ANDERSON

DO YOU *speak* COLOUR?

This is the season where colour gets weird and wonderful, so let us show you how to piece it all together

Words **Rebecca Lowthorpe**



MARNI

LOEWE

DIOR

GUCCI

JONATHAN SAUNDERS

MIU MIU

BALMAIN

FIRST
look

The first blast of 'weird' colour came at Prada, where the show's opening trouser suit was a shade that can best be described as sulphuric olive. Beneath said suit poked a turquoise shirt collar, grey orthopaedic sock-boots and a small leather bag in twin tones of salmon (raw and cooked). And it didn't stop there. The entire collection was a power punch of colour-shock combinations that only Mrs P could dream up: marshmallow pink with lime fizz; camel with lava red; dusty apricot with cobalt; synthetic emerald with sickly sweet pinks.

'It was soft pop,' Miuccia explained. 'Variations on beauty - what's real and what's fake.' Too right. But what bent our minds most was the sheer unnaturalness and disorder of the tones. And the fact that we liked it.

Afraid? Don't be. Just allow your eye to readjust and consider this: colour is at the heart of a/w 2015. It's at the root of every great, mould-breaking designer's collection and, consequently, on the inspiration mood board of every high-street brand worth its salt. Fashion has been energised, become more spirited and eccentric, and what better way to capture that than through sheer pigment saturation. Bright or subdued, weird or wonderful - colour is going to revolutionise your wardrobe. Not just because Miuccia Prada says so - although that always helps - but because there are a zillion ways to make the new colour uprising work for you. It's just a question of how far you want to push it.

The most challenging thing by far is to become a master mixologist overnight, co-ordinating 'off' colours in the manner of J.W.Anderson, both at his eponymous label and at Loewe. He layered scarlet lacquered-leather trousers with a lilac polo neck and a mint/black/

beige striped gilet. Pull off this kind of look, and we'll be cheering you on.

If you don't have a PhD in colour-blocking and want all the work done for you in a single piece, try print. See Jonathan Saunders' optical 3D swirls in the most heavenly clashing combinations such as brown and pea green, mint and purple, pink and bronze. Wild, for sure, but in such crisp, simple shapes, they aren't half as scary as they sound.

If 'off' colours simply scare the bejeezus out of you, steer clear of them altogether and opt for the single vivid swoosh. See Rodolfo Paglialunga's brilliant Jil Sander collection for precisely that: he used zingy diagonal stripes to lift the most classic of tailoring, or two hits of colour together - yellow shirt and red sweater, for example - beneath a traditional black Sander trouser suit. Brave, yes, but certainly accessible.

Failing all of the above, if you're truly allergic to any form of colour, let your accessories do the talking. You might not buy into the head-to-toe Miu Miu girl, but those bags - splicing crazy shades and textures - are a thing of wonder. Ditto, shoes: wave a paint-saturated wand over them and, abracadabra! You're speaking colour!

See, it's really not hard. And the high street is onto it like you wouldn't believe.

Our advice is to have a go - safe in the knowledge that any hue will do. From Topshop to River Island, Cos and beyond, we've scoured the rails and prepped the looks (see the next page) that, for one thing, altered our mood. Now it's over to you: embrace it, revel in it, be as rebellious or safe as you like.

Just do it. >

PRADA

YOUR COLOUR SWATCHES



BECOME A MASTER

Be brave and don't overthink it – this

TRANSFORM THEM:

TOP TIP

Three similar tones will tie a look together. Complete with a bold accent.

Cashmere jumper, £756, Tata Naka. Cotton-mix dungaree skirt, £175, Claudie Pierlot. Suede boots, £675, Tabitha Simmons

TOP TIP

Sugar-coat it: layer pastel on pastel without fear of looking saccharine.



Polyester-mix blazer, £65, and matching trousers, £32, both River Island. Cashmere top, £270, Equipment. Patent-leather shoes, £280, 2ndDay



Wool coat, £350, 2ndDay. Wool top, £165, Gerard Darel. Cotton-corduroy trousers, £300, J Brand. Leather boots, £80, Next. Leather bag, £317, TL-180



TOP TIP

Don't always go for block colour. A bold graphic print can open up your options.



MIXOLOGIST

year, tones are bold, unexpected and oddly instinctive

Words and styling **Michelle Duguid**

TOP TIP

Don't be afraid to choose a bold key piece – a coat can clash or complement.

Wool coat, £345, D.EFFECT. Wool top, £105, Libertine-Libertine. Leather skirt, £425, Gerard Darel. Leather boots, £89, Topshop

TOP TIP

Try colour that's soft enough to touch, then offset the gentle tones with a clash.

Mohair jumper, £215, Gerard Darel. Wool-mix trousers, £69, Cos. Leather sandals, £139, Senso. Leather bag, £425, Rag & Bone

TOP TIP

Use tobacco, the new neutral, as a calm base for playing with tone and texture.

Suede shoes, £90, Lacoste. Faux-fur stole, £42, Helen Moore. Leather bag, £219, Radley

SEE IT

For more of this season's most-wanted pieces, visit elleuk.com/fashion





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These new accessories are out of this world. Beam us up.

NICHOLAS
KIRKWOOD X
PETER PILOTTO
Leather boots, £995

**MARQUES
ALMEIDA**
Leather bag, \$546

ASOS
Steel and semi-
precious stone
necklace, £18

MCM
Acrylic bag,
£975

URIBE
Rhodium-
plated
bracelet,
£225

LOEWE
Leather boots,
£2,125

ROKSANDA Leather
and copper belt, £360

STELLA
McCARTNEY
Resin and Perspex
bag, £2,285

TOGA
Brass
earrings,
£303

PRADA Leather boots, £925

FENDI Leather and Plexiglas bag, £1,520

CAMPER
shoes, £145

Compiled by: Donna Wallace. Photography: 3 Objectives. For shopping details, see Address Book.



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Clockwise from top: Gold, enamel and diamond floral necklace, £24,120, Gucci. Gold and diamond hoop earrings, £5,700, Piaget. Gold and diamond snake bracelet, £5,170, Messika at Harrods. Gold and diamond bar necklace, £1,500, Tiffany & Co. Gold and diamond hoop necklace, £2,360, Cartier. Gold and diamond talisman ring, £1,550, De Beers. Gold and diamond cuff necklace, £4,400, Georg Jensen

Nice ice, baby

Rock out with *timeless*
diamonds in *cool new forms*

Styling **Donna Wallace** Photography **Aaron Tilley**

SHOP IT

See the trends first, direct from the #ELLEFashionCupboard. Go to elleuk.com/fashion



PAUL & JOE

COMING SOON OCTOBER 2015 - 28 BRUTON STREET, LONDON W1J 6QW - WWW.PAULANDJOE.COM



1. Wool-mix, £550, Roland Mouret.
2. Wool-mix, £235, Claudie Pierlot.
3. Viscose, £430, Carven.
4. Merino wool-mix, £495, Jonathan Saunders.
5. Viscose-mix, £38, Warehouse.

9 must-have polo necks

Never has a wardrobe staple felt so *now*: all hail the humble polo neck and its ability to transform the pieces you already own. Nod to the Roksanida catwalk and layer underneath a bold summer dress to extend it through to autumn, pop one under a white shirt to add some colour to your working wardrobe, or make it the hero piece and wear with flares. Basically, you really need one.

6. Wool, £144, Rag & Bone.
7. Viscose-mix, £24.99, H&M Studio.
8. Wool, £265, Maison Kitsuné.
9. Neoprene, £418, Versace

SHOP IT

See the trends first, direct from the #ELLEFashionCupboard. Go to elleuk.com/fashion

Case solved

The chicest hand luggage gets a *futuristic twist* courtesy of Louis Vuitton (just don't lose your key)

Styling **Donna Wallace** Photography **Baker & Evans**

ADD TO BASKET



As soon as Freja Beha Erichsen opened the Louis Vuitton a/w 2015 show carrying one, we were hooked. These vanity cases combine the label's luxury heritage with Nicolas Ghesquière's hi-tech, sci-fi vision (they come with pockets for iPads and chargers), all wrapped up in one irresistible accessory. Welcome to the future of travel.

From left: Coated metal, £7,960, and metal, £25,520, both Louis Vuitton

Words: Emma Sells. For shopping details, see Address Book.



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Autumn Collection

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Lynne B (Worcester)

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How do I use it?

Simply apply to a cotton pad and gently wipe across your skin.

GARNIER

Styling **Harriet Stewart**

HOW TO WEAR

The Cape

Toughen up this season's most coveted coat shape with leather and boyish accessories

FIRST
look

Add edge to your cape with chunky brogues. High-shine textures keep the look modern

Wool-mix cape, £370, Maje.
Cotton-mix blouse, £38, River Island. Leather skirt, £139.99, H&M Studio. Leather shoes, £110, Dune Black

Photography: Robert Harper.

HOW TO WEAR The Cape

*Cropped capes
suit petite figures,
while three-quarter
length is best
if you're taller*

*Skinny trousers – or
Lurex leggings if
you dare – balance
the cape's top-heavy
proportions*

Camel-hair cape, £329, Hobbs. Wool
top, £320, Acne Studios. Viscose-mix
leggings, £29.99, H&M. Leather shoes,
£325, Dorateymur. Silver hoop earring (top),
£85, Links of London. Silver hoop earring
(bottom), £30, and rose-gold rings (both
hands), £45 each, all Pandora. Silver rings
(both hands), £215 each, Thomas Sabo

Photography: Robert Harper. Additional photography: 3 Objectives. Hair and make-up: Carolyn Gallyer at CLM Hair & Make Up using Yves Saint Laurent and Unite. Manicure: Jessica Thompson using Chanel AW 2015 and Chanel Body Excellence Hand Cream. Model: Stephanie Rad at Storm Models. For shopping details, see Address Book.

EDITOR'S FAVOURITES



Polyester-mix,
£135, Atterley



Wool-mix,
£65, River Island



Wool-mix, £210,
French Connection



Wool and cashmere-mix,
£140, Warehouse



Wool, £265,
Reiss



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A woman with long, wavy red hair is smiling and leaning against the trunk of a large tree. She is wearing dark sunglasses and a thick, colorful patterned scarf. Her right hand is resting on the tree bark. The background shows bare tree branches against a clear sky.

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DONNA WALLACE
ACCESSORIES EDITOR

Wool jacket, £635,
and matching
trousers, £350, both
Bella Freud. Wool
top, £130, **Pinko**.
Leather boots, £1,110,
Dior. Jewellery,
Donna's own

'The slouchiness
of the trousers
is offset by the
sharpness of
the jacket – I'm
a suit convert.'



HANNAH SWERLING
SENIOR COMMISSIONING
EDITOR

Wool jacket, £960,
and matching
trousers, £685, both
Paul Smith. Whistles
top, and jewellery,
Hannah's own

FIRST
look

FROM THE ELLE FASHION CUPBOARD THE TREND IS: SUITS

*Let us introduce you to the new trouser suit. It comes in many forms:
soft and fluid or sharply tailored. You just need to bring the attitude*

'Styling tip: roll up
the hems of your
trousers to show
off your new-season
ankle boots.'



'Add a pop of
colour to make
a traditional
grey suit more
playful. This
orange really
stands out.'



ROSIE WILLIAMS
FASHION ASSISTANT

Wool jacket, £415,
and matching
trousers, £165, both
The Kooples. Cotton-
mix top, £20,
Intimissimi. Saint
Laurent sandals
(pictured left), Astrid
& Miyu necklaces, and
rings, all Rosie's own >

#ELLE FASHION CUPBOARD

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'A flared leg in a bold Seventies orange suddenly makes sense for the office thanks to long, clean lines.'

'The texture and masculine cut of this suit update it for a/w 2015 and beyond. It's a real investment piece.'

REBECCA LOWTHORPE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Cotton-mix jacket (with metal ring), and matching trousers, both £795, both **1205**. Wool-mix top, £85, **G-Star Raw**. Leather boots (pictured below), £650, **Acne Studios**. Jewellery, Rebecca's own



FIRST
look

KENYA HUNT
ACTING CONTENT DIRECTOR

Polyester-mix jacket, and matching trousers, both £38, both **Asos**. Wool top, £435, and leather boots, £495, both **Paul Smith**. Jewellery, Kenya's own



JAZZRIA HARRIS
FASHION INTERN

Wool jacket, £355, and matching trousers, £190, both **Paul & Joe**. Leather boots, £275, **Russell & Bromley**. River Island top, Jazzria's own

'The check print on this suit modernises an otherwise classic shape.'

EMMA SELLS
FASHION FEATURES WRITER

Wool jacket, £279, and matching trousers, £179, both **By Malene Birger**. Cashmere jumper, £295, **Madeleine Thompson**. Leather trainers, £150, **Senso**

'The relaxed cut of this suit makes it feel less formal and effortlessly easy to wear.'



ELLE STYLE IT From the Editor-in-Chief to the interns, find out what Team ELLE wears to the office every week at elleuk.com/street-style

A full-page advertisement for Jimmy Choo Illicit fragrance. The image features a woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a light pink high-cut bikini top and matching bottoms, and silver high-heeled sandals. She is holding a large, faceted, golden perfume bottle of Illicit fragrance. She stands in a doorway with sheer pink curtains, looking directly at the camera. The background shows a blurred view of a city at dusk or dawn. The brand name 'JIMMY CHOO' and the product name 'ILLICIT' are overlaid in large, black, serif font.

JIMMY CHOO

ILLICIT

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IN STORE

21.09.15

ASOS

Suede and faux-fur coat, £200

IN STORE

01.09.15

ALLSAINTS

Suede boots, £498



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For shopping details, see Address Book.



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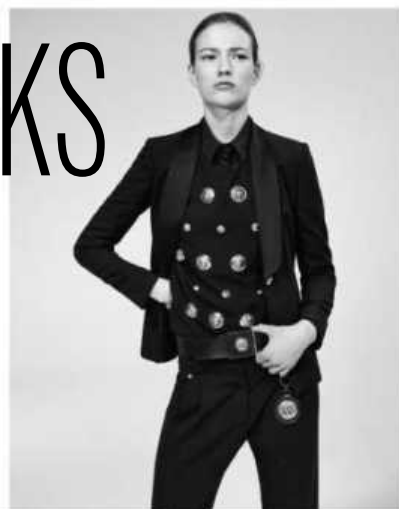


[@REBECCA_ELLE](#)



VERSUS ROCKS

Donatella Versace and Anthony Vaccarello are a marriage made in fashion heaven. This month, their Versus line hits London Fashion Week for the first time. Rebecca Lowthorpe asks, are you ready to party?



VERSUSCALLING // #VERSUSCALLING // #VERSUS

// #VERSUSCALLING // #VERSUSCALLING // #VER

One rainy evening in mid May, Donatella Versace was holding court at The Old Truman Brewery in East London. She was about to host a party to celebrate the launch of the first Versus collection designed by Anthony Vaccarello, the line's newly anointed Creative Director.

'It is Versus, it's totally Versus!' she declared of the seedy party space, its peeling walls plastered with black industrial tape that read #VERSUSCALLING. She might as well have been raving about the new-season pieces hanging on the rail beside her. All punkish black - leather bikers, mohair jumpers, sharp jackets and pleated asymmetric mini kilts - the collection, inspired by Britpop's Brett Anderson (there was no suede), signalled a new direction for the Versus girl. Her look, attitude and world were reflected in the bands that played that

night (Nothing But Thieves and Zibra - us neither!) and the guests who wore the clothes (Maisie Williams, Tigerlily Taylor, Natt and Leah Weller, Bip Ling, Mary Charteris and DJ Chelsea Leyland).

Donatella and I met in a private room, her reclining on a golden velvet sofa in a mini black kilt dress from the new Versus collection and black leather boots decorated with Versace's trademark gold Medusa heads. She declared: 'Versus is for a young crowd and London in this moment, is a very creative city - in movies, theatre and especially music - so we want to be here now and show here in September.'

And so, for the first time this September, Versus will show as part of London Fashion Week, seizing the crucial Saturday-night slot with a whopping 500-seater show followed by an after-party - which will no doubt be as studded with celebrity as it will be bursting with bands and DJs so underground, you'll have never heard of them.

Versace's ulterior motive for showing in London is the recently opened 1,500 sq ft Versus store on Shoreditch's Redchurch Street. >

Top left: Donatella and Anthony. Top centre: Donatella with models/ bloggers Doina Ciobanu and Bip Ling. Above and right: Looks from the new Versus collection





Right: Doina Ciobanu.
Below: Models Staz Linds and Mary Charteris



Above: Model Leah Weller.
Left: Donatella with Nothing But Thieves and Zibra. Below left: The new collection

@VERSUS_VERSACE

'Versus is an international collection so, like gypsies, we want to always be on tour, and show it in different cities,' says Donatella, flicking her hair with a diamond-encrusted finger.

Versus has always been Donatella's baby. The late, great Gianni Versace handed his younger sister the line in 1989. In recent years, it has been designed by both Christopher Kane and Jonathan Anderson, but this is the first time Donatella has awarded a designer permanent stewardship of the brand.

So, how did it feel to hand it over? 'It was not painful. I met Anthony and it felt right,' she says, all husky Milanese. 'It was impossible to be in charge of everything in the company. You need a different inspiration, a fresh eye and new direction.'

Anthony Vaccarello, 33, arrived on the Paris fashion scene four years ago (after winning the Festival d'Hyères in 2006 and working with Karl Lagerfeld at Fendi), and became an instant hit with his own-name collection and its sexy aesthetic. 'When Donatella asked me, it was like a dream,' says the softly spoken designer. 'This is a house that has inspired me since I was a kid. It's like hoping for something all your life and then suddenly you're working with one of the biggest icons in fashion and they're sitting right beside you...'

Anthony and Donatella not only speak the same language - his parents are both Italian, although he was born and raised in Belgium - they also share



a similar sex-infused style and vision for the brand. That's why Anthony has been given creative carte blanche to update the label. 'It's great because she trusts me. For a designer to work for another brand with no pressure, that's just amazing,' he says.

'But I want more colour!' Donatella teases, playfully.

'For me, that is full of colour,' he

quips, referring to the long khaki kilt and subtle plaid shirts.

Of his ideal Versus girl, Anthony says, 'She's not a celebrity, she's a girl I know, a friend, someone you could pass in the street or see at a party.' Or, as Donatella puts it, 'She's a rebel inside. She is maybe looking to become an actress, a writer. She's a very interesting person - a scientist! She doesn't have to be a rock star.'

Thank goodness for that. Although, no doubt the Versus collection that will be shown in London this month will transmit the same rock-rebel vibe. It will also be instantly shoppable - a see-now-buy-now collection available online, because, says Donatella, 'That's the world we live in today and young people want that.'

And all you have to be is interesting enough to wear it. ELLE readers, this is made for you. ●



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IF ELLE MADE RESTAURANTS

Inspired by new film **Burnt**, ELLE's Food Editors Laura Jackson and Alice Levine conjure up the restaurant of our dreams



DREAM TEAM

London florists **Grace and Thorn** (6) would provide amazing wild flower arrangements. Then for drinks, enter modern-day Willy Wonkas **Bompas & Parr** (8). They've created everything from glow-in-the-dark ice cream to a life-size crazy golf course made of cake, but their vapourised gin and tonic, which you inhale as you pass through a mist, would become our signature.

We're all about bold flavours, seasonal cooking and not too much fuss, and we found our foodie kindred spirits at **The Hidden Hut** on the Roseland Peninsula, Cornwall - it's magical. By day, founders Simon Stallard and Jemma Glass serve simple seaside fare, then at night the hut hosts fabulous open-air feasts on the beach - rustic, bring-your-own-plate affairs, showcasing lobster, wood-fired seafood paella and grilled mackerel. For dessert we'd get together the two best bakers on the block - **Lily Vanilli** (2) and **Violet Cakes**. This winning combination would make it very hard to not save space for dessert.

The restaurant scene has never been bigger. Chefs are now A-list stars, industry turnover reached £21.6 bn last year, and they're taking over Hollywood too. This month sees the release of **Burnt** (out 16 October) starring Bradley Cooper, Jamie Dornan, Lily James and Sienna Miller (pictured top right) as super chefs who get together to create the ultimate restaurant. Inspired by the idea, we enlisted ELLE's in-house foodies Laura and Alice to devise their fantasy restaurant.

SOCIAL

@symmetrybreakfast (1) would do our social media. Photographer Michael Zee shoots his and his boyfriend's breakfast each day, and shares it with 350k Instagram fans.



MENU

As we're both stationery fiends, the guys at **Hato Press** (4) would produce our paper menus - they publish gorgeous books and, as food fans, they get how important a little list of dishes can be.

Pineapple weed: You can forage this hardy stuff in rocky areas (such as gravel and pavement cracks) and it tastes like a cross between pineapple and chamomile. We turn it into cordial.

Deep-fried courgette flowers: We grow these in the J&L garden and they are so moreish.

Watercress mayo: Condiments are key to any meal and this is simple and seasonal.

Granita: Flavoured, crushed ice. The perfect palate-cleansing finish to a bold meal.

STYLE

Think Wes Anderson meets Sofia Coppola. **Utility** (9) in Brighton is perfect for this look, an Aladdin's cave of old-school kitchenware. We'd hire India Mahdavi to do the interiors - she worked her magic on the Paris restaurant **Germain** (7) and London's **Sketch** - and guests would eat from plates crafted by pottery specialists **Suite One Studios** (5). Margate fragrance brand **Haeckels** (3) would make us a unique scent.



LOVE IT

Trademark

Meet the sisters who are creating your new wardrobe building blocks

it. She mixes items and is drawn to things she can wear for a long time, not just a season.'

The pair's roles are split down the middle: Louisa designs, while Pookie, a former fashion-photography student ('I keep trying to persuade her to shoot our look books, but she won't,' says Louisa), takes care of the business side.

The pair are thinking big: just three seasons in, they already have women's, men's and accessories collections, a website and a beautiful store in Manhattan's Meatpacking District. Their ambition is fuelled partly by their family's fashion pedigree: Tory Burch is their stepmother, and their entrepreneur father Chris - who helped Tory found her business - has been mentoring them along the way.

For now, though, it's the a/w 2015 collection - classics given a retro twist and inspired by a Garry Winogrand exhibition of 1960s and 1970s street-style photography - that we really want to wear.

Available at matchesfashion.com, prices from £211-£679

It's the details that really draw you in to New York label Trademark's pieces: the turquoise fringing along the neckline and cuff of a white shirt; the detachable faux-fur collar on a camel coat; the curved shape of a jacket pocket. These are the creations of sisters Louisa and Pookie (real name Alexandra) Burch - age 26 and 30 respectively - who set out to create sophisticated pieces that their friends could afford. Of the Trademark woman, Louisa says, 'She's confident and if she likes something, she knows

Silk-mix blouse and wool-mix jumper, both £50



Daisy Lowe is the face of Giles' collection for Debenhams



Giles Deacon joins Designers at Debenhams

Debenhams has been partnering with the biggest names in British fashion for 22 years, and this season's recruit is Giles Deacon. 'It's for the girl who loves to dress up,' says Deacon of the new collection. 'She never wastes an opportunity to impress.' That means channelling his playful, gothic style into pussy-bow blouses and lace dresses, and enlisting Daisy Lowe as its face. 'If any person sums up the words glamorous and sexy, it's Daisy,' says Deacon. 'That's exactly how I want the women who wear my clothes to feel.' Out early September, prices from £45-£180

FAST FASHION NEXT-DAY NEXT

Need it in a hurry? From this month, you can order online until midnight at next.co.uk, and still get your chosen pieces delivered to your door the following day.



Words: Emma Sells, Photography: 3 Objectives, Luca Campri. For shopping details, see Address Book.



A fashion advertisement for Chloé. The image shows two women in a natural, outdoor setting. The woman in the foreground is wearing a light-colored dress with a delicate floral and butterfly pattern. She is carrying a large, structured, brown leather Chloé bag with a gold-tone chain strap and a gold-tone clasp. The woman in the background is wearing a dark dress with a white floral pattern and has her hair blowing in the wind. The Chloé logo is visible on the bag and in the bottom right corner.

Chloé

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[THE EDIT]

CRAFTSMANSHIP REVISITED

John Lewis fedora hat £45, John Lewis lambskin gloves £50, Ugg fringe suede bag £115,
 Diptyque Figuier Vert candle £55, Miss KG ankle boot £85, John Lewis scarf £45, Reiss jumper £130,
 Jaeger corduroy coat £350, Warehouse cream shirt £38, Karen Millen denim flares £99,

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LOUIS VUITTON: SERIES 3

The label's all-singing, all-dancing exhibition is coming to London

Imagine being able to fully immerse yourself in the wonderful world of Louis Vuitton. Not just in the label's luxury pieces or its high-impact catwalk shows, but in its history and the intricate inner workings of Creative Director Nicolas Ghesquière and his design team. Well, get ready. This month, London will play host to Series 3, the third in a run of travelling exhibitions designed to give an in-depth insight into the fashion house and what really makes it tick.

The chosen venue? Not an upmarket gallery or a perfectly designed store, but 180 The Strand, a brutalist former office block in central London. Spread across three floors and 13 rooms, the exhibition will centre around the a/w 2015 collection in all its futuristic, hi-tech glory, and will track different journeys: that of a collection's from concept to catwalk, and of the models making their way from backstage to runway at the Paris Fashion Week show.

This won't be a run-of-the-mill fashion exhibition: Ghesquière and his team are mining the most innovative light, sound and

digital technology to bring the displays to life. There's the Magic Malle room with its giant LV trunk (meant to represent Ghesquière's brain) projecting images of sketches, designs and inspirations onto the walls; the Infinite Show, a space filled with 25 double-sided LED screens that will continuously play each of the 50 catwalk looks from the a/w 2015 collection; the Savoir Faire lab, where you'll be able to watch some of the house's most talented and expert artisans at work as they craft pieces; and a room filled with life-sized 3D printed figures made from scans of model Marte Mei van Haaster, which will be used to showcase the history of Louis Vuitton accessories.

Naturally, you'll be feeling inspired to shop by the time you've finished. As luck would have it, a T-shirt, scarf and three bag shapes, all printed with the Series 3 logo and unveiled on this season's catwalk, will be available to buy in Louis Vuitton stores this month. *Louis Vuitton Series 3 is on at 180 The Strand, London WC2R 1EA, from 20 September to 18 October. The Series 3 collection is priced from £510-£1,500*





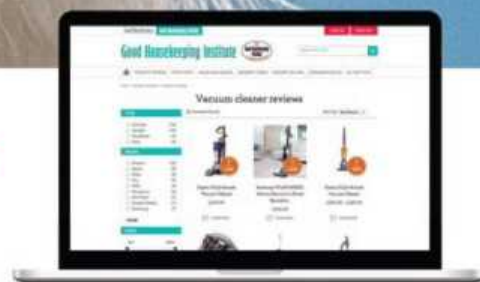
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EUDON CHOI

Knitwear, now

Call off the search – we've found the sweaters you'll want to wear all season long

Luxury knit label Brora has enlisted London designer Eudon Choi to create a 15-piece capsule collection that launches this month. Taking 1970s après-ski as his starting point – exactly what we like to channel in the winter months – he's conjured a modern take on alpine dressing: from jumpers emblazoned with ski goggles and skis to boldly patterned sweaters, block-coloured capes and matching accessories. There's even a hot-water bottle cover to ensure you're as cosy as possible. Roll on winter. Available from 15 October, prices from £85-£495



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Denim jumpsuit, £235, Brigitte x Gerard Darel

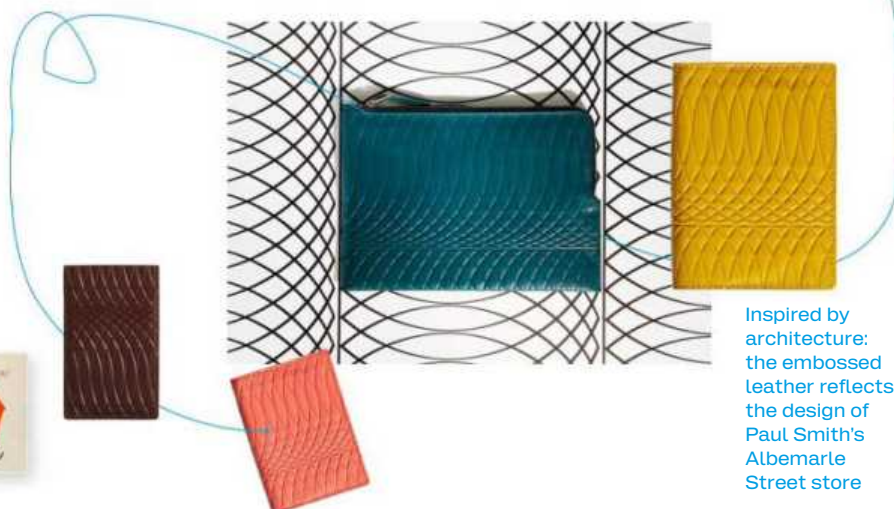
Brigitte x Gerard Darel

French folk-music duo Brigitte (Sylvie Hoarau and Aurélie Saada), have turned designers for Gerard Darel. The retro vibe that informs their music has inspired a concise six-piece collection, including a camel coat, denim jumpsuit (left), leather hobo bag and felt hat. Available from September, prices from £140-£610



PAUL SMITH'S NEW LEATHER WALLETS

In the spirit of finding inspiration anywhere, Paul Smith's new collection of leather goods is inspired by the entrance of his Albemarle Street store in London, the material's embossed circles mirroring the shop's Georgian façade. The eight styles cover everything from document holders to wallets, and the collection comes in a rainbow of 11 colours. Available from 9 September, prices from £130-£495



Inspired by architecture: the embossed leather reflects the design of Paul Smith's Albemarle Street store

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MY LIFE IN BOOKS

MARGARET ATWOOD

The author, 75, shares the books that have shaped her life

GIRLS GROWING UP

Anne Of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery
Lives Of Girls And Women by Alice Munro

These books offer two views of girlhood, one with a positive outcome, the other more negative, but both with strong female friendships in common. I read the first *Anne* book when I was eight. I wasn't much interested in the later books; I wanted to read about her life as an orphan making good and about her relationship with these severe grandparent figures. I already admired Alice for her first book, *Dance Of The Happy Shades*, when *Lives Of Girls And Women* came out in 1972. Anne never thinks about sex whereas Munro's protagonist, Del Jordan, thinks about it a lot!

ANIMAL STORIES

The Tale Of Mr. Tod by Beatrix Potter
Wild Animals I Have Known by Ernest Thompson Seton

Most of Beatrix Potter's stories are somewhat dark, but this one - about a sackful of kidnapped baby rabbits who must be rescued lest they be made into a pie - is especially so. The atmosphere is terrific, and the dialogue is a model of indirection in conversation. Luckily it ends well. I was given *Wild Animals I Have Known* for Christmas by my parents. It was very popular when it first appeared but it is not a book that will make you cheerful. It describes the lives of real animals and they all come to tragic ends, as wild animals tend to do. The saddest tale is about wolves - a mother's doomed quest to rescue her trapped cub. It made me feel gloomy.



DOUBLES AND EVIL TWINS

The Memoirs Of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle; Strange Case Of Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

I adored both of these books when I was 11 and have been interested in evil twins ever since. I think the idea fascinates everyone - we all have a dark side, a potential evil twin - but these stories make it literal. As a writer, the way *Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde* is structured as a story within a story within a story is so compelling. It's a device that I've always been interested in using, and eventually did in my novel *The Blind Assassin*.

CINDERELLA STORIES

Pride And Prejudice by Jane Austen
The Portrait Of A Lady by Henry James

I was given a copy of *Pride And Prejudice* as a school prize when I was 12. It is a bad influence because it gives you the idea that men who are rude to you are secretly nice and rich when that is almost never true. But everybody loves it, and I am no exception. I was fond of Henry James in my late teens. Isabel gets her Prince Charming, but he turns out to be a total rat. I was annoyed with her for not running off with someone who really loved her - she was too respectable. Both books had quite a lot to teach about structure and narration, once I got around to thinking about them. They are both also about money, asking: How does money or the lack of it influence a woman's life? It convinced me of the virtues of saving up and separate bank accounts.

DOOMED LOVERS

Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

I read *Wuthering Heights* at 14 or 15, and *Anna Karenina* a bit later. Neither women's lives work out well but Brontë's classic has a more romantic conclusion because they are together (albeit dead), whereas poor Anna is deserted, so it's an anti-romantic ending. The device of *Wuthering Heights* is brilliant: Heathcliff and Cathy are observed from a distance to make them larger than life.

The Heart Goes Last by Margaret Atwood (Bloomsbury) is out on 24 September



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THREE NEW READS WITH STYLE AND SUBSTANCE, BECAUSE THE BEST THINGS ALWAYS HAVE BOTH

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2. *Make Life Beautiful* by Camilla Morton

This collection of tips and tricks from your favourite designers is a must-own for the doers out there with an allergy to chintzy craft.

3. *Love x Style x Life* by Garance Doré

An illustrated look at the world of fashion A-lister Doré with personal stories, styling tips and musings on life. Prepare for Insta-envy.



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AND I
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UP HAPPY
EVERY DAY'**

**-OLIVIER
ROUSTEING**

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ELLE exclusive #ITSFASHIONBABY

*Sharp shoulders, exquisite embellishment: it could only be the work of Balmain's Creative Director **Olivier Rousteing**. Now a new collaboration with **H&M** brings his designer vision to the high street. *ELLE* gets the first look when Editor-in-Chief **Lorraine Candy** meets him, and Accessories Editor **Donna Wallace** wears the pieces*

Interview **Lorraine Candy** Photography **Robert Harper**

Embellished viscose-mix jacket, £299.99, and suede boots, £199.99, both Balmain x H&M. Right: All as before



There's a tuxedo jacket that's so well-cut you could wear it to the Oscars, a majestic velvet dress so cool it rises above every trend and an embellished jumper that deserves its own spotlight in your wardrobe, it's *that* glamorous.

Prepare to meet the most luxurious high-street pieces you've ever seen, but then you would expect nothing less from wonderkid designer Olivier Rousteing. His new collaboration with H&M, out this October, is as close to the Balmain mothership as it's possible to be, but without the price tag.

I've wanted to meet Olivier properly for some time. I've never managed it backstage at his show

Wool sleeveless jacket, £59.99, viscose-mix bandeau top, £14.99, silk trousers, £59.99, and cotton sandals, £119.99, all Balmain x H&M. Necklace, Donna's own



because I'm simply not tall enough to bypass his friend Kim Kardashian's bodyguards or squeeze past Rihanna's entourage. And, while I feel like I know Olivier from his social media frenzy, nothing beats a one-to-one. So when his Balmain x H&M collaboration is announced, we bag the exclusive and I head to Paris.

But what does one wear to meet Olivier Rousteing: the high priest of hotness? A high-octane, skintight dress that screams 'party on a yacht at 3am in Miami'? A shimmering mini skirt with six-inch stilettos? Actually, none of the above. Having now spent some time with him, I can tell you that any decision to slip into something slinky would be misguided - you'd have the wrong impression of this clever man. Not that sexy isn't right, you understand. Because sexy is always right for Olivier, the elegant Parisian who, four years ago, aged just 25, became one of the youngest ever Creative >

FIRST
look




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Above: Embellished leather bag, £99.99, and silk shirt, as before, both Balmain x H&M. Left: Embellished-polyester dress, £249.99, Balmain x H&M. Necklace, as before

'I'M A FEMINIST. WHAT I DO IS ABOUT THE POWER OF WOMEN, THE WAY THEY ARE WINNING IN THE WORLD AND THE BALLS THEY HAVE'

Directors at a luxury fashion house. And yes, he does believe in full-on, fierce dressing, but Olivier's motives for this reflect a powerfully successful business mantra: give the modern customer what she wants. 'I am designing for today's modern global woman,' he tells me. 'She doesn't belong to just one place. She's glamorous, confident, sexy, strong. She is not afraid. This woman is Balmain as well as Balmain x H&M.'

Olivier has created a popular aesthetic, one that armies of women today love. And the collaboration with H&M, which follows in the footsteps of Karl Lagerfeld, Isabel Marant, Margiela and Versace, will spread his influence. His style may provoke a raised eyebrow among the more traditional elements of the industry, but what Olivier produces, inevitably sells.

In real life, Olivier, who will be 30 next year, is more serious than his online party-boy persona. He is measured and thoughtful, with a quiet, charismatic confidence about him that is unexpected.

The underlying theme of any conversation with him is tolerance and democracy. This is refreshing - his inclusiveness is undoubtedly ushering in a more modern thinking among luxury fashion.

He is a champion of ethnic diversity on the

runway and in his ad campaigns, and he has brought innovation to an established designer brand, particularly with his use of social media as a potential retail tool. He has the largest following on Instagram of any French designer (1.2 million and rising), which when combined with his famous supporters' reach is around 47 million, according to the industry website *Business Of Fashion*.

'I'm a very open-minded person. I don't like taboo; I like everyone having the freedom to express who they are.'

'I'm a feminist; I love women completely. For me, what I do is about the power of women, the way they are winning in the world and the balls they have.'

Olivier's vision is focused and singular. He's one of the few designers not to work with a stylist or muse, like Karl Lagerfeld does with Amanda

Harlech, for example. He says his team is predominantly female, and his main influence is the world of music. This is what drives his aesthetic.

For one so young, he appears to have successfully managed the immense pressure at the top of the fast and furious fashion world.

'My life is my work and I make sure I wake up happy every day,' he says. 'It's really important to me for the business to do well; for us to sell more. I am very involved in that part of Balmain. I'm the first to push to get the figures up on a spreadsheet!'

'I AM DESIGNING FOR TODAY'S MODERN GLOBAL WOMAN. SHE DOESN'T BELONG TO JUST ONE PLACE. SHE'S GLAMOROUS, CONFIDENT, SEXY, STRONG. SHE IS NOT AFRAID'

Wool-mix coat, £139.99, silk dress, £119.99, leather boots, £139.99, steel-mix necklace, £59.99, and brass and white glass ring, £12.99, all Balmain x H&M. Socks, Donna's own



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'I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE HATERS. I JUST MAKE SURE I ENJOY MY WORK AND THAT IT SELLS'

'I surround myself with authentic people. Voices that are healthy and not selfish.'
'You seem exceptionally emotionally mature,' I tell him, but he refutes that.

'I'm not actually, but I am patient,' he says. 'And I am super-confident - I am aware of being pushed in the wrong direction by the wrong people.'

'I started life in an orphanage [and was adopted aged one and a half], so I am careful of whom I trust - that is my background.'

Olivier is extremely close to his parents, who always attend his shows. He is as proud of them as they are of him, having supported his choice to move from studying law to work as an apprentice, initially, at Roberto Cavalli in Milan for five years from the age of 18. From there he moved to Balmain under Christophe Decarnin, whose sudden departure was almost as much of a shock to the industry as Olivier's subsequent appointment.

'You know, some people left when I got the job [of Creative Director at Balmain] - they felt I was too risky to work with as I was so young, but people often judge me without meeting me,' he explains. 'Some say Balmain is just bling-bling and that Olivier is so immature, he's just after fame. But some think, "Wow, before he hit his 30s he made an empire, he's really grateful to be where he is and he is actually a good guy."

'But, you know, I don't care about the haters. I just make sure I enjoy my work and that it sells.' There is no doubt his court of famous friends

'PEOPLE LEFT WHEN I GOT THE JOB - THEY FELT I WAS TOO RISKY TO WORK WITH AS I WAS SO YOUNG. PEOPLE OFTEN JUDGE ME WITHOUT MEETING ME'

has raised his profile immeasurably. When I quiz him about it, he seems to have what he calls 'honest' relationships with women such as Kendall Jenner, Kim Kardashian and Rihanna, who will play him music she is working on as often as he shows her sketches for new collections.

What's important here is that his work is informed by what's really going on in the world, rather than the more traditional fashion workflow of a designer presenting women with ideas that often don't suit the mood of the times. What I like about Olivier is that his clothes are celebratory and he is not snobbish about who wears them.

'You can be sexy, you can be feminine and you can be strong as well,' he says. But what he finds sexiest of all is success, and this latest venture is sure to deliver that. ●

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Wool jacket, £79.99, silk top, £49.99, leather trousers, £199.99, leather boots, as before, and brass and glass earrings, £24.99, all Balmain x H&M

Silk-mix trousers, £79.99

Balmain x H&M:
the ELLE edit

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Leather jacket, £199.99

Leather belt, £59.99



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ZOË KRAVITZ

The ultimate Hollywood hipster on smashing stereotypes and staying grounded

Interview **Lena de Casparis**

A lesson in cool from Zoë Kravitz, age 26: get yourself some scenester parents – it helps if they're a bit like Lisa Bonet and Lenny Kravitz. Choose some kick-ass roles in *X-Men*, *Divergent*, *Mad Max* and this month's hit indie film, *Dope*. Become best friends with the most major women in Hollywood – we're talking Miley, Cara, J-Law... Start a rock band, and call it Lolawolf. And then call ELLE from a tattoo parlour in LA to chat. OK, sorry Zoë, we can't compete.

SEE IT

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What's it like being a young woman in Hollywood now?

It's a great time because people are finally talking about our opportunities and roles. This is an industry that has been run by men for so long and we can't expect them to speak for us, because they really don't know. It's time for women to start writing our own sh*t, directing our own sh*t, producing our own sh*t. We have to start doing it.

What made you want to take the role in *Dope*?

I've always wanted to do a black film. I wanted to celebrate being black and to work with black actors and directors. But I'd found that I didn't relate to the characters that were being written. This film read like an instant classic, like *Superbad* or *Clueless*. It captured my generation so well.

We loved the music in the film...

Me too. Nineties hip-hop is really my sound. My band actually played one of the songs in the movie.

Is your band Lolawolf still going strong?

It was never intended that the band would be more than a hobby, so it's a blessing it has blown up so big. What I like about music is I have total control over it, unlike with the acting. It's almost like my diary, and it keeps me sane.

Are you a feminist?

It's a funny thing to me. To be a feminist, you're almost validating all the things that feminists are against. I would rather completely disregard all stereotypes. With *Mad Max*, I was surprised by the responses of, 'Oh my god, this is a feminist film.' It's cool that people responded that way, but to be honest, I didn't think about that when we were shooting. I was just like, 'Yeah, these women are badass.'



How do you stay sane?

My friends and my family are everything to me. They keep me grounded. I've been working a lot, so I haven't been home to New York very much, and that's when I really feel the difference. My favourite thing is to take the subway and just walk around with my headphones on. Now people recognise me and it's changed with everyone on social media – they all want selfies.

You recently joined Twitter?

I only joined because there was a fake Zoë Kravitz on Twitter saying all this weird stuff that I didn't want to be associated with.

Who do you call for advice?

My best friend who lives with me, and I have another best friend who was actually physically there when I was born. Also Riley Keough, who was in *Mad Max* too – I've known her since we were three.

What's next...

I really want to do a comedy. I feel like *Bridesmaids* has opened it up for women in comedy and people are really hungry for that. I know I am. Women are a different kind of funny to men. Even in life, when I'm just with my girlfriends, we say and do the funniest sh*t that men have no idea about.

Who else makes you laugh?

Amy Schumer is great. And I think Kristen Wiig is one of the funniest people to have ever lived. She is actually a genius. *Dope* is out 4 September



Zoë with Rakim Mayers (ASAP Rocky) in *Dope*

FIRST
look

ELLE PROMOTION



Clockwise from left: Quilted vest, £49.99, trousers, £49.99, tunic, £39.99, and bag, £149. Embellished sweater, £119.99, and skirt, £139.99. Oversize sweater, £119.99, and skirt, £139.99. Zip-up top, £49.99, and trousers, £29.99. All H&M Studio Collection

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Clockwise from above: Quilted jacket, £119.99, trousers, £29.99, top, £29.99, and boots, £119.99. Sweater, £39.99, and chevron-print dress, £29.99. Faux-fur coat, £119.99, trousers, £49.99, and cap, £29.99. All H&M Studio Collection



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THE RETURN OF GRUNGE

'We reflect the dodgy, dirty areas of Paris rather than the elegance and chic'

Words by **Emma Sells**



AW15

FIRST
look

The word “sophisticated” is almost a taboo in our office – it has nothing to do with us,’ says Demna Gvasalia, 34, the Georgia-born Head

Designer of cutting-edge Parisian label Vêtements. ‘We want to communicate a different kind of Paris. We live here, so we reflect everything that we see around us every day – the dodgy, dirty areas rather than the elegance and chic that people know.’ So Gvasalia and his team – or creative collective, as they refer to themselves – have developed a knack for taking wardrobe staples, be it a bomber jacket, a pair of jeans, a three-quarter-length skirt or a great jumper, and deconstructing them. By changing the proportions and textures, and piecing them back together, they create items that are unexpected but recognisable enough to be wearable. Make no mistake: we’re not talking about boring basics here.

Vêtements launched with a small presentation in early 2014. In just three seasons, the label has become a fashion insider’s favourite, picked up some of the most powerful stockists around the globe – such as 10 Corso Como and Colette – and earned itself a place as finalist of this year’s prestigious LVMH Young Fashion Designer Prize – a feat made all the more remarkable given that the label is based in Paris, where luxury fashion houses and tradition rule supreme, making it notoriously difficult for young, experimental labels to flourish. ‘I think if we were in London or LA, it would look quite similar,’ says Gvasalia. ‘It’s more about how we filter what we absorb from the outside world. We just love dressing women who have real attitude and their own sense of style. >

Vêtements' a/w 2015 collection features deconstructed police, fire and security uniforms mixed with oversized, reimagined basics

Photography: Harley Weir.

AW15



AW15



AW14



AW14

The first collection was dreamed up after-hours in Gvasalia's kitchen



AW15



SS15

Vêtements unveiled its a/w 2015 collection in the dark, grungy surroundings of Paris gay club Le Dépot

We offer them the elements and they use them as Lego to construct their own personal and individual look.'

There's a much-discussed Margiela-like spirit to the label, both in the conceptual cut and styling of the clothes, and in the anonymity of the now 13-strong team who work alongside Gvasalia. It's no accident: Gvasalia got his first job at the fashion house after graduating first in economics in his native Georgia, and later in fashion design from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp.

He then moved to Louis Vuitton just in time to work with Marc Jacobs on Jacobs' final collection for the house, and with Nicolas Ghesquière on his first two. But, in the meantime, he and two friends were working on ideas for a new label, sketching out pieces and creating samples in his kitchen at weekends.

There is no theme that ties each collection together. It's about creating a wardrobe rather than a concept. Among the statement pieces you'll find subtly subversive clothes that make for easy wearing, each garment individually crafted, sure to add an effortless edge to anything you throw them on with. The designers' approach is intuitive: they're simply making clothes that they and their friends want to wear - and enjoying themselves in the process. 'Some of our biggest brainstorms come from our biggest parties,' Gvasalia tells us. 'Everyone just relaxes, has some cheap wine and smokes cigarettes, and our creative ideas pop up.'

The buzz around the label has built fast and its a/w 2015 show, held late at night in the dark Parisian club Le Dépot, saw Kanye West and Jared Leto sat alongside the slew of fashion editors and buyers clamouring to see the collection. They're planning to take things slowly going forward, as Gvasalia tries to avoid the pitfalls of growing too quickly. 'We're just going to keep doing what we're doing,' he says. 'Everything has already moved so fast and the clothes have spoken to more people than we ever thought they would. It's the best compliment to see people wearing our clothes. That's why we do it.'

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Gucci took inspiration from Margot Tenenbaum's colour palette and quirky layering

THOROUGHLY MODERN MARGOT

Fashion critic Alexander Fury on the Wes Anderson effect: how the director's colourful films and cast of quirky characters have influenced the a/w 2015 catwalks

Even if you don't know director Wes Anderson's work (in a career about to enter its 20th year, he's made just eight feature films), you'll recognise his women – clad in vintage cast-offs, with DIY haircuts and a riveting unconventional beauty. They include writer Margot Tenenbaum, played by Gwyneth Paltrow with curled-lip sulkiness, in slithering slip dresses and a fetchingly bedraggled knuckle-deep mink in *The Royal Tenenbaums*. Anjelica Huston as divorcee Eleanor Zissou in *The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou* also hits a stylistic spot, in oversized turquoise jewellery and billowing evening dresses. Or how about *Moonrise Kingdom*'s Suzy Bishop, a 12-year-old suburban girl whose primly collared and cuffed shift dresses have a whiff of Louis Vuitton about them?

The appeal of Anderson and his characters is this: his carefully

planned costumes don't look like costumes. They have hints of nostalgia, without (generally) tipping into fancy dress. These women have captivated a number of fashion designers: look at the a/w 2015 catwalks and you'll see the Wes Woman walks among us.

I first clocked her full-on at Gucci – although it seems I'd been blind to her charms as, in retrospect, she'd cropped up in London and New York before, at the shows of Emilia Wickstead and Lacoste. The references were very different: Felipe Oliveira Baptista worked a natty headband and tracksuit in homage to Luke Wilson's former tennis pro Richie Tenenbaum on the Lacoste catwalk; while Wickstead channelled the grandeur of Anderson's 2014 turn, *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, in sweeping coats and trim tartan ball gowns.

It was Gucci, however, that nailed Andersonian attire dead-on, thanks to new Creative Director Alessandro Michele. Boho of beard and with curling shoulder-length hair, Michele doesn't emulate the director's own pin-neat geek-chic look. But his Gucci girls recalled

Gucci's red hats looked strikingly similar to Steve Zissou's in *The Life Aquatic*

Moonrise Kingdom

FIRST
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Jason Schwartzman as Max Fischer in *Rushmore*



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It isn't just a grab bag of kooky granny-chic clothes that dedicate the season to Wes' Women. It's the colour palette, too: sepia-stained claret, cognac and emerald green – succulent, oddball colours like a batch of wallpaper printed wrong. Those shades are Wes Anderson signatures – pushed-back Polaroid hues of sun-bleached wallpapers, plenty of beige and brown, the occasional zing of pastel. There's a Tumblr that pinpoints the Pantone shades of his films – 729c for Margot's mink; 179 salmon orange for Zissou's hat; 236 for the powder-pink packaging of Mendl's, the patisserie in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. Prada's winter collection was awash with the latter, the show and its venue blocked out in fancy fondants like Ladurée macarons – or, indeed, Mendl's finest. 'Halfway between fake and real,' was how Miuccia Prada described her sugary peach, lemon and blossom pink, with a spongy jersey fabric that rendered the shades saturated and flat – like

The Anderson effect is so strong that he has even twisted the output >

The set design of Prada's a/w 2015 show had an Anderson influence

THE TREND

Ben Stiller
(centre) bringing
adidas stripes
back as Chas
Tenenbaum



Luke Wilson
as ex-tennis
pro Richie
Tenenbaum



+

=

of some of the biggest fashion houses to his will: in 2006, for the piles of luggage in *The Darjeeling Limited*, he persuaded Louis Vuitton to forgo monograms and checks for whimsical illustrations of safari animals and palm trees. It would probably have been easier for Anderson's team to make the luggage in-house but, for something so synonymous with Vuitton, it wouldn't have been quite right.

Even your living room isn't immune to Anderson's charms. The interiors of his films have a specific and immediately identifiable look. Regardless of the period it represents, the decor always includes a fusty, dusty amalgamation of vintage furniture, moth-eaten taxidermy and dodgy paintwork. Walk into any Urban Outfitters and there are mass-produced curlicue-festooned birdcages, battered gilt picture frames and record players housed in 'vintage' cardboard suitcases. These pieces could come straight from the art department of an Anderson film.

Quirky. That's the word. It summarises Wes Anderson's movies and the director himself - not least in the sartorial choices of both. Receiving a Golden Globe in January (Best Picture, Comedy or Musical for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*), Anderson wore not a slick tuxedo, but a red gingham shirt and oversized bowtie under a velvet suit. He repeated the look, with chartreuse checks, for the Oscars, then at the Writer's Guild awards in February he accepted his Original Screenplay statuette in a rust velour suit with a mildewy, green-grey tie. These slightly fuddy-duddy style touches have become the director's signature and boosted his fashion cred.

But how can you channel the Wes



LACOSTE



The Royal Tenenbaums



@ALEXANDERFURY

Woman and not look like you're heading to a costume party as Velma from *Scooby-Doo*? Because, let's be honest, she's the female incarnation of Max Fischer (Jason Schwartzman) in *Rushmore*. It has even scared designers in the past - Wickstead is a rare example of someone who directly cites Anderson as an influence. 'I am crazy about... his scripts and his attention to detail, which is so precise and charming,' she says.

Her collection played on the Anderson references to subtle effect, as should you. Anderson's off-colours - grubby mustard, powdery teal or bruised burgundy - aren't quite so off-putting when teamed with neat denim, or even black, as opposed to brown and tan. A geometric Gucci brocade coat can easily break free of Central Casting reissue territory and populate a real woman's real wardrobe. And ignore my Mendschick: those puffy pink and ice-blue Prada prom dresses are out-and-out pretty. No irony required. I'm not too sure about bobble hats or the oversized berets - but at least they'll keep your head warm. It is autumn/winter, after all. If nothing else, Wes knows how to dress his women for winter, something many designers seem to have forgotten.

There's something comfortably covetable about Suzy Bishop's A-line Sixties shifts in faded berry colours, about the prim Miu Miu-ish blouses and camel coats of Saoirse Ronan in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, or Margot Tenenbaum's universally appealing boxy mink. They're not costumes; they're just clothes. And good ones at that. Come to think of it, quite a few fashion designers could take a leaf out of Anderson's book. Although, in my opinion, they already have. ●



LACOSTE

LACOSTE



BALLY

Schwartzman, Adrien Brody and Owen Wilson lugging custom Louis Vuitton luggage created for *The Darjeeling Limited*



LACOSTE



The Grand Budapest Hotel's offbeat colour palette influenced Bally

Photography/Getty, The Kobal Collection, Jason Lloyd-Evans, Rex, Shutterstock, Arthea Simms.



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Hikari wears: Wool coat, £1,500, and wool trousers, £450, both Haider Ackermann. Céline shirt, Haider Ackermann boots, Hannah Martin earrings, and Gucci bag, all Hikari's own

WORK

SPY

Photography **Silvia Olsen**
Words **Gillian Brett**

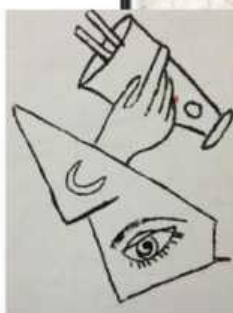
I read somewhere that on average, a person from my generation will go through seven different careers in their life,' says Hikari Yokoyama, a woman whose business card reads entrepreneur/freelance art curator/brand consultant. Hikari, 32, is one of the many millennial (otherwise known as 'generation forward-slash') graduates who had to get creative with their career paths to succeed in the rubble of the global economic downturn. 'We are happily evolving our own lives, rather than just having one identity,' says the Tokyo native, who grew up in Chicago.

Diminutive in stature, but strident in demeanour, her talent for turning an art installation into something more immersive - like a fashion show, music gig or short film - and her love of fashion, have

There's nothing 'basic' about Hikari Yokoyama, the ultimate art/fashion/branding slashie, who thinks big and dresses even bigger



Artwork: Plant Tunes courtesy of the artist, Ltd Los Angeles and The Journal Gallery; Untitled by Andro Wekua courtesy of Paddle8, © Andro Wekua; Untitled by Joe Bradley courtesy of CANADA.



HIKARI'S WORK MOODBOARD

Clockwise from top: 'Plant Tunes' (2014) by Leif Ritchey; 'Untitled' (2004) by Andro Wekua; 'Untitled' (2014) by Joe Bradley

meant her career intersects most often with luxury brands. This month, her to-do list includes coordinating an artist talk series at Frieze Masters (14-18 October) with Gucci, and advising Erdem on artwork for his Mayfair store opening this month.

She also manages the 'curatorial perspective' of Paddle8, the virtual art auction house (and iPhone app, natch) she co-founded in 2010. To help make the art world more accessible to the eBay crowd, Hikari coordinates special projects and guest curations - meaning inventive partnerships with everyone from Marina Abramović to Solange Azagury-Partridge and Grace Coddington.

Hikari's style personality is just as varied. 'Erratic, chameleonic and exploratory,' she says, which equates to conceptual shapes, an

indulgence in print and colour, and hardcore designer dedication. 'If I'm in a rush and I need something foolproof, I'll wear my striped Céline shirt and trousers: simple yet elegant. I have a pewter-blue Gucci suit that makes me feel like I'm on a secret mission, and Mrs Prada makes a wonderful shoe - bonkers but comfortable.'

'Basics' are not something this extrovert is willing to invest in - even her accessories could be displayed in the V&A Museum without arousing suspicion.

Hikari's career advice is, not surprisingly, to stop contemplating and start doing. 'Participate - you must have confidence in your voice and you can only gain this by making mistakes as well as having successes.' So, go forth, mess up, and prosper. >

@HIKARIYOKO

MONDAY

'Wedges are my saviours for days when I want to wear heels but have to run around.'

WORK
SPY

HIKARI LOVES

Shops: Mouki Mou, Alex Eagle and Dover Street Market in London

Book: *Arabian Sands* by Wilfred Thesiger

Music: Anything by Lianne La Havas

Rayon top, £490, and matching skirt, £735, both Stella McCartney. Shoes and socks, Hikari's own



TUESDAY

'My dressed-up look relies heavily on interesting silhouettes and statement accessories.'

Silk top, £821, Maison Margiela. Emilia Wickstead trousers, vintage necklace, and ring, all Hikari's own



Cotton top, £360, and silk trousers, £3,970, both Rosetta Getty. Vintage belt, Hikari's own

CV

2010-present
Luxury Brand
Consultant and
Founder,
Paddle8

2006-2010
Freelance Art
Advisor and
Curator, *Art Observed*

2004-2006
Curator, Jeffrey
Deitch's *Deitch Projects*

EDUCATION
2002-2006
History of Art,
University of Chicago and Columbia University

Wool jacket, £1,220, matching trousers, £595, and silk shirt, £565, all Gucci



Wool coat, £3,550, Fendi. Vintage Jean Muir dress and Haider Ackermann shoes, both Hikari's own



FRIDAY

'This formal pantsuit is super easy to wear. It's perfect worn with flats for days full of business meetings.'

@PADDLE8

THURSDAY

'I run an artist-led film program at the White Cube gallery, so I need to look polished and professional for these meetings.'

WEDNESDAY

'Detail and print can really complement voluminous shapes - don't be afraid to do both.'

CAN'T BE WITHOUT...



'My Cutler & Gross glasses, a notebook and Lucas' Papaw Ointment.'

Styling: Donna Wallace. Photography: Silvia Olsen. Make-up: Tania Grier using Sisley Paris Skincare and Cosmetics. Hair: Ashley Lambe at Kennaland using Bumble and bumble. Thanks to: Chiltern Firehouse, Gucci Showroom, Paddle8 and White Cube. For shopping details, see Address Book.



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CLOSET *confidential*

LISA POTTER-DIXON

She's a sequin-loving, vintage-trawling, former disco-dancing champion, and Benefit's head make-up artist.

Lisa Potter-Dixon, 32, reveals her favourite pieces and top make-up tips

Words **Kerry Potter** Photography **Jessica Mahaffey**



A typical weekday sees Lisa Potter-Dixon in glittery pink Miu Miu heels

If you're ever hurriedly applying your make-up on the train, en route to work, and a random woman approaches you offering help, do not be alarmed. She's not a weirdo, she's Lisa Potter-Dixon, successful make-up artist, author and all-round good-time girl.

'I love watching women doing it, but I can't help myself if it goes wrong,' she says, grinning. 'Like when they're trying to do eyeliner and the train goes over a bump. I tell them I'm a make-up artist and offer to do it. No one ever says no.'

They often tweet me later in the day and tell me how much they loved it!

As Head Make-Up Artist at Benefit, the gregarious Potter-Dixon spends a lot of time up close and personal with other women, from girls on the street to celebrities and models. She's also unashamedly a sequin person. 'Sequins aren't just for Saturdays!' she hollers, as we flick through the rail that runs the entire length of her bedroom in Teddington, in the suburbs of London. It's a carnival of colour, shimmer and



'I love anything with sparkle, feathers or sequins.'

Lisa's make-up mantras: 1. Don't be afraid to experiment – you can take it off! Try putting it in the 'wrong' places – lipstick on your cheeks, for example.

Right: 'My style is all over the place. I have a lot of fun with fashion – why not?'



shine. On any given weekday, you'll find Potter-Dixon in her glittery pink Miu Miu sandals or a black vintage sequined jumpsuit. The polite word for her style is eclectic – or 'all over the place' as she puts it, with her trademark easy laugh. With most Closet Confidential interviewees, you can instantly pinpoint their style. Potter-Dixon, however, dresses and shops purely according to whim and mood. There are no themes, no repeat buys. She points to her collection of outré 1980s party dresses, many by French designer Louis Féraud and sourced on eBay. 'People ask me when I actually wear these ballgowns. When I'm hoovering! Or on a wet Tuesday!' She laughs. 'I love Eighties clothes. The designers were more adventurous and they weren't afraid to use colour. I have a lot of fun with fashion.'

Growing up in Gosport, Hampshire, Potter-Dixon inherited a love of fashion and beauty from her mother, a model who later ran a beauty salon. Aged 12, she was crowned Southern England's disco-dancing champion no less – resplendent in all-pink spandex, sequins and eyeshadow. And so began a lifelong love of all things sparkly. Despite studying theatre and English at Kingston University, she gravitated towards a career in beauty, landing a job as store manager at Benefit in Covent Garden. 'I did think about doing theatrical make-up as a job – I used to write plays and go up to the Edinburgh Festival where I'd always do the make-up for shows. But I enjoyed doing make-up on real women. I love how you can transform someone and the confidence it can give them.' She's been with Benefit for seven years now, deftly carving out



Above: 'This Louis Féraud dress was an eBay find.'



HERO PIECES

Silver shoes

My Carvela sparkly shoes (pictured overleaf) are my favourites but, like Cinderella, I lost one after a night out. I was so happy when I managed to track down a new pair online, so I now have a spare.

Wedding hairpiece

An old friend of mine Tana makes hairpieces and she created this one (above right) for my wedding in 2012.

Vinyl

Theo and I bonded over our mutual love of soul, R&B and hip hop. There's always music blaring out in our house.

Louis Féraud ballgown

I love print and colour, and this was an eBay find. Two of my four sisters have worn this to their proms.

Mascara

There's a love letter to mascara in my book. A tip: always do your bottom lashes first. If you do the top ones first, it can transfer to your eyelid while you're doing the bottom ones.

Leopard-print dress

I wore an amazing vintage dress to a Rod Stewart concert in Vegas. We were at the front and I managed to get a selfie with Rod – he stopped singing in the middle of *Maggie May* to do it!



Above: 'When I was 12, I was the Southern England disco-dancing champion!'





Left: Lisa's love of vintage extends to homewares

a name for herself - she'd hang around outside fashion magazine offices to persuade beauty editors to let her do their make-up and she's been canny at building her profile on social media. At 32, she's now Benefit's Head Make-Up Artist, and the author of a new book, *Easy On The Eyes* (Ryland Peters & Small), a guide to eye make-up.

Vintage clothes are another passion of Lisa's, and roughly 80% of her closet is made up of second-hand finds. She never spends more than £50 per item as she trawls eBay, car-boot sales and charity shops the world over. A pristine pair of Chanel courts and a Dior pillbox hat she wore for her wedding to charity worker Theo Coyne are among her top finds. On the high street, she loves ankle boots from Zara, jewellery from Asos and T-shirts from Cos, while Matthew Williamson is her favourite contemporary designer. 'I do all his campaigns - it's my favourite thing that I do. We have the same passions: flamingos, colour, sequins! He's very generous and gives me dresses: anything with glitter, feathers or sequins, he knows I'll love.'

Potter-Dixon's gung-ho approach to fashion makes perfect sense when you hear about her recent past: she lost her father to a heart attack 11 months ago, while Coyne lost both his parents to illness, and has also just recovered from a brain tumour. She knows only too well that life is short. 'I care about what people think about me or my work, but I honestly *don't* care what people think about what I look like. If I love something, I wear it,' she says, smiling. Fashion maverick and eyeliner-fixing fairy godmother: let her inspire you. ●



Left: 'These silver Carvela shoes are my favourites'

VINTAGE MUST-VISITS

**W. Armstrong & Son,
Edinburgh
(armstrongsvintage.co.uk)**

I got a great Louis Féraud patterned jacket here for £12. It's really cheap and they have amazing cashmere and Burberry pieces.

**Wasteland,
Los Angeles
(shopwasteland.com)**

Uh-may-zing! They have so much stuff, it's ridiculous, and it's all designer. I can happily spend hours in here.

**Pop Boutique,
London (popboutique.com)**
When I worked at Benefit's Covent Garden store, I was in here every lunchtime. I especially like their jumpsuits, bags and belts.

**Static Vintage,
San Francisco
(staticvintage.com)**

It's so tidy for a vintage shop - the stock is beautifully laid out and labelled according to size and decade. And there's a cool vintage photo booth.



Right and below: Lisa's wardrobe is a carnival of colour, pattern and texture



@LISA_BENEFIT

Photography: Jessica Mahaffey, Hair: David Wadlow at Premier Hair and Make-up. Make-Up: Lisa Potter-Dixon, using Benefit.

them until the end, it can make the rest of your eye make-up look heavy. 3. Coconut oil is amazing: use it as a lip balm, hair treatment or face mask.

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B&O H8 headphones E399, Ramada armchair E900, Ruark R7 music system E2,000,
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Puccini side table E575, Odyssey medium sofa E1,800, Firenze cushion E40, Droplet single light E95 each,
Edward Selkirk Blue Reverie canvas E275, Little Greene Paint Co. paint in Scree from E26.

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Left: Wool sleeveless coat, £399, Jaeger. Mohair-mix jumper, £49.99, and leather boots (just seen), £99.99, both H&M Studio.

Trousers, £36, Topshop
Right: Wool jumper, £99, Karen Millen. Cotton dress, £49.95, Gap. Cashmere jacket (tied around waist), £805, Club Monaco. Leather boots (just seen), £79, Topshop. Acrylic earring, price on request, Thomas Tait. White gold bracelet (worn throughout), £4,150, Messika at Harrods. Ring, £12.50, Topshop. Leather bag, £285, Michael Kors

Offset textures by pairing with this season's minimal bags



Spinning yarns

It's time for knitwear to go from supporting to **starring role**. Mix **textures** and **colours**

Above left: Wool-mix jumper, £79, Cos. Wool skirt, £245, Joseph. Flannel-mix shoes, £69, Dune. Gold earring, £270, Dior. Silver necklace, £109, ilovedesigner.com. Leather bag (worn throughout), £290, Radley. Cotton socks, £11, Falke

Right: Wool-mix coat, £325, Bimba Y Lola. Cotton dress, £350, Nicole Farhi. Leather and stainless-steel watch, £1,295, and leather bag, £1,310, both Gucci. Gold and diamond ring, £5,260, Messika at Harrods

Right: Wool-mix dress, £39.50, Marks & Spencer. Wool zipped jumper, £29.99, H&M Studio. Cashmere jumper (worn underneath), £115, Cos. Leather boots, £895, Jimmy Choo. Silver earring (model's left ear), £495, Links of London. Silver-plated metal earring, £135, Dior (model's right ear), and cotton socks, both as before



WHAT TO WEAR
AT WORK



#ELLEFASHIONCUPBOARD



Left: Wool and cashmere jumper, £790, Dsquared2. Wool trousers, £756, Isa Arfen. Mohair-mix scarf, £29.99, H&M Studio

Right: Wool-mix cardigan, £110, Whistles. Cotton jumper, £155, Sandro. Cotton shirt (underneath jumper), £120, Lacoste. Cotton dress (tied around waist), £250, Nicole Farhi. Cotton trousers, £49.50, both Marks & Spencer. Leather shoes, £730, Chloé. Silver-plated metal earring, as before. Gold ring, £130, Links of London. Leather bag, £1,450, Bally



A well-cut jacket elevates knits from slouchy to sharp



Left: Vinyl boots, £1,600, Dior. Silver earrings, £135, Kirsten Goss. Coat, dress, watch, ring, and bag, all as before (previous page)
Above: All as before (previous page)



STYLE IT See what Team ELLE wears to work at elleuk.com/style/what-elle-wears

Styling: Donna Wallace. Photography: Robert Harper. Additional photography: Anthea Simms. Hair and make-up: Carolyn Galtier at CLM Hair & MakeUp using Nars and Bumble and bumble. Manicure: Jessica Thompson at Frank Agency using Chanel AW 2015 and Chanel Body Excellence Hand Cream. Model: Pamela Ramos at DI. For shopping details, see Address Book.

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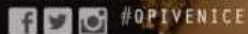


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BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

ELLE STYLES

LIZA DARWIN, 28, MUSIC
AND STYLE WRITER

SHOP MY LOOK

Cotton top, £272, and
skirt, £272, both Suno.
Leather-mix shoes,
£90, Lacoste. Polyester
backpack, £35, Monki.
Sunglasses, Liza's own >



@LIZADARWIN

p220



Street Style... **Brooklyn** See how the girls in NYC's coolest borough dress, then shop it

Micro Trend... **About a boy** Relaxed tailoring and go-fast flats: a love song to androgyny



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ELLE STYLES MAY KWOK, 30, DJ AND CREATIVE CONSULTANT

'I would dress this sweater down with baggy pants and sneakers'

SHOP MY LOOK

Viscose top, £400, Sportmax. Denim jeans, £195, MiH Jeans. Leather boots, £160, and leather bag, £65, both & Other Stories. Rings, May's own

@IAMAMAYZING



ELLE STYLES NATALIE SUAREZ, 26, BLOGGER

@NATALIEOFFDUTY



SHOP MY LOOK

Denim jacket, £170, Dolman. Leather shoes, £300, Toga. Blouse, skirt, sunglasses, bag, tights and jewellery, all vintage, all Natalie's own

'This denim jacket, with its retro feel, fits in nicely with my mainly vintage wardrobe'





ELLE STYLES LAURA NOLTE, 29, MARKETING DIRECTOR



'This outfit is relaxed but still pulled together – I'd swap the denim for a blazer to make it office-appropriate'

@MISSNOLTE

SHOP MY LOOK

Denim jacket, £222, Edit. Cashmere top, £130, Whistles. Silk trousers, £225, Ganni. Leather shoes, £55, Office. Mulberry bag, Retrosuperfuture sunglasses and Anna Sheffield jewellery, all Laura's own



ELLE STYLES SABRINA BACON, 26, COSTUME DESIGNER



'I love to play with colour and shape, so I'd style this with an oversized Crombie coat'



@SABRINAXBALLERINA

SHOP MY LOOK

Mohair-mix jumper, £239, Orla Kiely. Silk shorts, £330, Club Monaco. Leather boots (left), £125, & Other Stories. Perrin Paris bag, Lady Grey necklace, Marlo Laz ring, and watch, all Sabrina's own >





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ELLE STYLES KELSEY LEAR LAFFERTY, 22, FASHION ASSISTANT

'I always choose a statement jacket as the first focal point of an outfit, then style it with denim and a plain tee'

SHOP MY LOOK

Leather and shearling gilet, £798, AllSaints. Cotton-mix top, Marks & Spencer. Leather shoes, £64.99, Office. Lucky Brand jeans, belt, bag, and jewellery, all Kelsey's own



ELLE STYLES KATE GREER, 26, ARTIST AND POPCORN FARMER



@KATEGREER



SHOP MY LOOK

Polyester-mix cardigan, £549, Toga. Lurex top, £155, Sandro. Leather and silk sandals, £445, Tabitha Simmons. Suede bag, £65, River Island. Jeans and bandana, both Kate's own

'I love to dress up, so I would wear this polo neck with my silver disco-ball skirt at the weekend'





ELLE STYLES ERICA CHOI, 29, DIGITAL ART DIRECTOR

@EGGCANVAS



'I wear mostly monochrome so this outfit works well, but I love the subtle added element of print'

SHOP MY LOOK

Silk blouse, £180, Equipment. Saint Laurent by Hedi Slimane leather jacket, Proenza Schouler skirt, Stella McCartney shoes, Janessa Leone hat, sunglasses, Chloé bag, tights, and jewellery, all Erica's own



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INSIDER'S GUIDE TO BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

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Drink... old-time cocktails around the curved marble bar at **Hotel Delmano** ④ (hoteldelmano.com)

Indulge... in gourmet bean-to-bar chocolate at **Mast Brothers Chocolate** ⑥ (mastbrothers.com)



Styling: Harriet Stewart. Photography: Jeff Thibodeau. Map: Russell Bell. For shopping details, see Address Book.

Women's Health

FEATURING

KHLOE KARDASHIAN

And the plan that built her hot, new body!



OCTOBER
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About a boy

Relaxed shapes, muted tones and standout basics. It's time to get androgynous



ELLE tip: Flats are your friend. Mix with skirts and tailoring for boy/girl appeal. Right: Leather shoes, £75, Clarks



ELLE tip: Layer up your look with relaxed knits. Above: Wool jumper, £245, Folk



ELLE tip: Invest in simple, boyish shirts and work your wardrobe around them. Above: Cotton shirt, £59, Jigsaw



ELLE tip: A masculine coat will add androgynous overtones to whatever look you wear it with. Above: Sleeveless wool-mix jacket, £395, Nicole Farhi



ELLE tip: Want to add colour? Combine rich shades of green with your staple navys and greys.



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SNEAKER



PAUL & JOE x NATIONAL
STANDARD Leather, £265

It used to be that the only women who wore trainers with everything were PE teachers. Now **sporty** footwear is in step with the **coolest** trends, and as common on the **catwalk** as the **high street**. ELLE's trainer obsessives show you how they wear **theirs**

Photography **Victoria Zschemmler**

Emma Sells, Fashion Features Writer, wears

THE HI-TOP

How do you feel about hi-tops? Faced with a wall of the season's most coveted trainers, would you gravitate towards them? Or would you, like most of us, opt for something more familiar, an easier-to-wear retro sneaker or running trainer? Think again. Because if you're overlooking hi-tops, you're really missing a trick, especially as this season Saint Laurent and Christian Louboutin have both

put out versions you really could wear with anything.

I get it, they usually feel more masculine than a low-cut trainer. But you only have to cast your mind back a few years and remember how much you (and the rest of the world) wanted a pair of Isabel Marant's hi-top wedge sneakers to realise how easily they can slip into your wardrobe. I like to take a two-pronged approach: using them to add a sporty, boyish slant to the more overtly feminine pieces in my cupboard, or to fully embrace androgyny.

Not sure how to style it out? Just think of them as the ankle boot of the trainer world. They're at their best paired with mid-length dresses and skirts, ideally with bare legs - if you can get away with it, weather-wise. They look great with a trouser suit, hems rolled up to the ankle, especially if you go for a brightly coloured pair. They're also a brilliant winter choice, as the high sides are far more resistant than your trusty Stan Smiths. And, really, isn't comfort what wearing trainers is all about? ▶

PIMPS

Leather trainers, £595, CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN.
Cashmere jumper, £69, MARKS & SPENCER.
Polyester-mix skirt, £445, PREEN LINE



Leather trainers,
£187, MM6.
Polyester-mix
top, £69, COS.
Wool and silk-mix
trousers, £290,
FLEAMADONNA.
Metal earrings, £270,
DIOR. Cotton-mix
socks, £7, PRINGLE
OF SCOTLAND.
Silk-mix top and ring,
both Donna's own

*Donna Wallace, Accessories Editor, wears***THE DESIGNER TRAINER**

BALENCIAGA
Leather, £405



DIOR Neoprene
and rubber, £870



JIMMY CHOO
Felt and leather, £425



PIERRE HARDY
Leather, £390



MIU MIU
Crystal-embellished satin, £930



CHARLOTTE OLYMPIA
Ponyskin, £445

Fact: It's so not cool to wear stupidly high heels or impractical blogger-bait footwear any more. We've all got places to go. But there is a world beyond Nike and Reebok, so these uber-luxury trainers are designer footwear for the most glamorous wardrobes. Céline caused a shift when Phoebe Philo put her stamp on the classic skater slip-ons. Then Chanel did the unthinkable and put trainers in a couture show, and even the most die-hard heel wearers were sold.

These luxe trainers all have something special about them – be it workmanship or fabrications – that sets them apart. I like to let the trainers do the talking, making them the hero piece of an otherwise stripped-back outfit. But if your style is more exuberant, clash colours and textures and wear them as you would your most elegant shoes. These styles will take you places run-of-the-mill trainers won't. >



ALDO Suede, £70



NIKE Leather and cotton, £67



ADIDAS AT SCHUH
Polyester-mix, £155



SANDRO x
REEBOK CLASSIC
Leather, £120



DUNE Leather, £99

SHOP IT See ELLE's edit
of the best trainers at
elleuk.com/fashion



Harriet Stewart, Market & Retail Editor, wears

THE RUNNING TRAINER

I remember a time when I wouldn't be seen dead in my exercise kit outside of the gym. Fast-forward to 2015, and London has gone fitness mad. I can barely battle my way down Carnaby Street at lunchtime without having to navigate through swarms of runners, spinners and yogis (granted most of them probably work at ELLE!) – and I'm one of them.

With this infatuation has come a shift in attitude towards sportswear as well. Running trainers are cool – and no longer just for running. What used to be considered acceptable for the

morning commute has now become a perfectly suitable part of our daily wardrobes. As a (somewhat sporadic) member of the #ELLEFit team, I'll usually be found at my desk in Lycra on a Wednesday (our running day), and at the very least in trainers the remaining four days of the week.

So, how to wear them without looking like you're actually going to the gym? Track trainers can be the hardest to make look smart, so avoid wearing with anything too casual. I love the way a pair of colourful track trainers add a casual spin that can completely subvert a trouser suit, or how a muted, retro pair will perfectly offset the elegance of a polished dress. For a luxe style that works with evening too, try something that has a metallic finish and pair it with your sparkliest party skirt. ●

Polyester-mix trainers, £155, ADIDAS x STELLA McCARTNEY. Polyester-mix dress, £48, WAREHOUSE. Jewellery, Harriet's own



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These pages: Polyester-mix maxi dress, £48, leather boots, £40, fedora £22, statement ring, £5, and stacking rings, £12 (set). All Next



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This page: Wool-mix coat, £55, tencel shirt dress, £38, cotton-mix trousers, £38, and leather boots, £110. All Next **Opposite:** Faux-leather jacket, £58, corduroy skirt, £20, cotton-mix top (just seen), £16, leather lace-up boots (as before), and stacking rings, £12 (set). All Next





This page: Viscose-mix jacket, £45, viscose-mix trousers, £28, faux-leather pumps, £28, gold-tone watch, £42, and stacking rings, £12 (set). All Next

Opposite: Wool-mix coat, £55, denim shirt, £22, suede skirt, £70, and statement ring, as before. All Next



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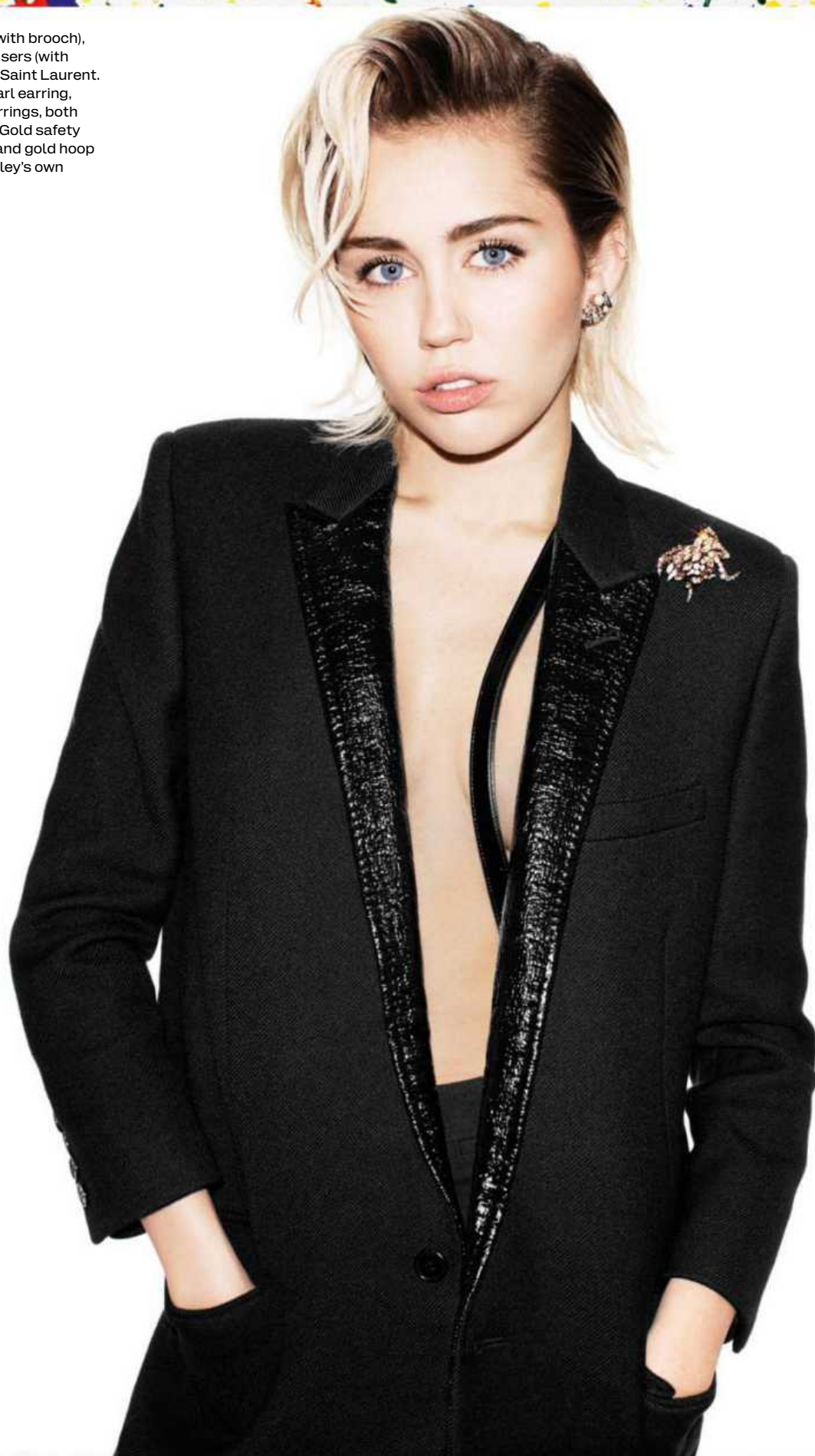
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We're at the vanguard of a new movement. One that **challenges everything** we thought we knew about **sex and gender**: Does dating a girl make you a lesbian? Does being born male make you less of a woman? **Is your sexuality fluid?** In 2015 we can ask these kinds of questions, and enjoy the fact that **the answers** are so far from black and white... **they're a riot of colour.**

THE GENDER DEBATE

MILEY CYRUS GETS THE CONVERSATION STARTED ➤

Wool jacket (with brooch),
and wool trousers (with
braces), both Saint Laurent.
Silver and pearl earring,
and metal earrings, both
Alex Monroe. Gold safety
pin earrings, and gold hoop
earring, all Miley's own





EXPRESS

To mark our **30th birthday**, we invited **Miley Cyrus**, a true activist for the Instageneration, to discuss her views on **sexuality, gender and love**

YOURSELF

Words **Lena de Casparis** Photography **Matt Irwin** Fashion **Alison Edmond**

Miley Cyrus is still covered in paint as she drives me down Sunset Boulevard. It's just past 7pm on a Saturday evening in July. The palms lining the sidewalk are lit up by that famous LA glow, and I'm sitting shotgun in her white Maserati with the windows down. My feet are surrounded by old food wrappers and what looks like a scrunched up onesie. The back seat is scattered with more outfit changes than I packed for my entire trip to California.

Miley, fresh from her paint-splattered ELLE shoot, is playing me a taster of her new album on the car stereo, singing along to the key lines of her single *Baby Talk* like she's on stage at Madison Square Garden. 'Do you think it's funny?' she asks. 'I want to make people laugh.' It is, I tell her, enjoying the track's monologue where she describes exactly how she wants to have sex. Though in truth, my laughter is as much to do with the surreal situation as it is her new lyrics.

As we approach red lights, and come to jolted stops, >



Left and far right:
Cotton T-shirt,
American Apparel.
Gold earring,
Alex Monroe

people in neighbouring cars clock who's driving and yell her name. Miley seems to barely notice, like it happens every day. She is, after all, the most famous 22-year-old on the planet. I, on the other hand, am not so used to the attention and find myself doing an awkward British wave like some robot version of the Queen. I'm sort of hoping they think I'm her new Stella Maxwell, the Victoria's Secret model Miley was supposedly dating, but more on her later.

Miley was destined for fame. Born in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1992, her dad is Billy Ray Cyrus, the country singer famed for karaoke classic *Achy Breaky Heart*, and her mum is film producer and actress Leticia (Tish) Cyrus.

Aged 14, Miley hit the big time on Disney Channel's *Hannah Montana* and became America's favourite teen girl-next-door. It was a shock to her adoring tween fan base when, in 2013, she then dropped the sickly sweet virgin act, lopped off her hair, learned to twerk, and became the most Googled person that year.

Now she has sold over 30 million albums worldwide, has 26 million Instagram followers, 21 million fans on Twitter, and is said to have a net worth of between £75 and £96 million.

When we meet, it has just been

announced she is to host this year's VMAs, and she tells me she plans to drop the new album in a Beyoncé-esque surprise the week before ELLE hits the newsstands. So no doubt by the time you read this, the world will be in outrage over something she's done: 'Nothing we're doing [for the VMAs] seems out of control to me, but I thought that the first time, so I'm sure everyone will have a problem.'

To use the kind of bland celebrity platitude she hates, Miley is so Hot Right Now. But for all the millions of followers, VMA furore, and controversial new album, it's something else that sees her on the cover of this 30th anniversary issue of ELLE. It's her role as a gender activist, and her voice as an influential, politically engaged young woman on a mission to make the world more tolerant that we care about.

When ELLE last interviewed Miley, in June 2013, it was unclear what was next for the star. Would she go off the rails like a dynasty of pop stars before her – or play it safe, stick to the script and produce commercially successful bubblegum-pop records. Miley chose neither: she's decided to use her power, and popularity, to do something important.

'I feel like the luckiest woman doing what I do, but being a pop star is kind of the dumbest sh*t of all time, and I was kind of embarrassed that I got paid to shake my ass in a teddy bear costume,' she says. 'I should not be worth the amount I am while people live on the street. Nothing I do will justify that. But I have so much influence as a pop star, it's important I use it.'

And so she started a charity, The Happy Hippie Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to helping homeless and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender (LGBT) youth. A recent project with Instagram involved Miley taking and posting portraits of transgender and gender-expansive people from all walks of life tagged with #InstaPride, to promote tolerance and self-expression by increasing visibility.

One woman Miley met on the project is Precious

Davis, 29, who works in diversity recruitment at Columbia University, and transitioned three years ago. 'Miley is using her influence to show the resilience of transgender and gender-variant people, and celebrate that,' she tells me. 'It was inspiring to meet her, she's such a ray of light. Her heart is in the right place and she's authentic. There are lots of pop stars who refuse to be an example to young people, but she has the ear of the youth of America, it's great that she chose to do something positive.'

The message of 2015 has been that #LoveWins, culminating in the Supreme Court's June ruling on mar-

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riage equality for same-sex couples in the US (as well as Ireland's recent move to legalise gay marriage). Now we begin a new era of sexual acceptance, it seems we have a lot to thank Miley for. 'It was one of my happiest days in a long time,' she says of the Supreme Court ruling. 'When I went to breakfast that day, so many people came up to me to thank me for fighting for them, as if I had anything to do with it.'

Miley pulls up to LA's celebrity haunt Soho House. We head up in the lift, and take a seat on a sofa at the back of the restaurant with a view overlooking the sprawling city. She orders a margarita for herself, some guacamole to share, and I go for a large glass of the pinot grigio she recommends. She greets every staff member at the club politely. 'A guy said to me recently that I treat everyone the same. It was the best compliment ever, far better than him saying I was cute.'

I find myself asking if she comes here often. Oh god, perhaps I really am pretending this is a date.

She joined the members' club a few months back and likes it because the rules mean people can't ask for her picture while she's eating. Her mum gets annoyed when dinner is interrupted.

Tish turned up at the end of our cover shoot. Petite and perfect, she slipped in without a fuss, looked at the shots, and yelled proudly in her sexy Southern drawl, 'This is my favourite shoot you've ever done,' to which Miley replied, 'You say that on every one, Mom!'

Their relationship seemed loving and, well, incredibly normal - Tish tells me she likes Miley's hair at this length more than her crop, just like my mum told me after I'd grown my hair out aged 19.

Earlier that day, Miley had sat in the make-up chair reading aloud an article that appears in *Charisma News*, an extreme Christian magazine, entitled *Miley Cyrus Just Did Something Shameful On Instagram* - a response to her upcoming VMA performance. 'Billy Ray Cyrus, the country music star and father of the misguided youth,' she reads aloud, 'was probably sick to his stomach watching his baby on stage,' taking pauses between each sentence to laugh.

On the face of things, internet haters and religious commentators don't seem to bother her. 'When I hear [this type of] criticism, I brush it off. Often it's hilarious,' she says, clearly disillusioned by the religion she was brought up with.

'My parents are proud of my work. My dad doesn't care what I do on stage - he gets my being controversial. In his day, he would be wearing tank tops and Reeboks to the Grammys when all the other country

singers wore cowboy boots. My parents have learned a lot about LGBT issues from me. They're 50 and from the South so I don't expect them to understand it all, but I ask them just to accept it for me.'

The so-called 'shameful' things Miley had been doing are perhaps just the things people use to dismiss her politics: the tongue-wagging and stripping off on social media. But you'd be wrong to judge this woman by her Instagram feed - there is a lot more to her. She seems acutely aware of what she's doing, and how to command attention. 'You get your tits out,

and they are all looking, then you can use that space to say something and get them to listen.'

What she maybe misses is that her way of getting that attention sometimes hinders her ability to be listened to and taken seriously. But for Miley, she is just being Miley, and doesn't understand why that should impact on whether her message is heard. And perhaps she has a point.

Being liberated and free with her body is inspiring a whole movement. We talk at length about her armpit hair and how it encouraged an army of young women to grow theirs and share it on social media. 'I only got rid of it because I was drunk and found a waxing kit. I miss it.' She goes on to say she

**'IF YOU'RE
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WILL MAKE
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BEAUTIFUL'**



won't stand for people airbrushing it out in pictures: it's part of her.

Another picture that got lots of attention was one she'd posted of herself on Instagram three weeks earlier wearing a T-shirt saying 'Gender Is Over', a post that received over 550k likes, 100k more than an average post. I ask her to explain what her genderless world looks like.

'When a baby is born, it seems clear: here's a girl, and here's a boy. But once you're an adult, you can choose who you are. We're born humans,' she says, never breaking eye contact as we talk unless it's to dip a crisp in some guac. 'I am a feminist - there's still inequality to fight - but I don't relate to what people have made men and women into. Like men play sport, and they eat meat, and women sit in a dress painting their nails. I'm more extreme and badass than most guys, but that doesn't make me a boy. And the other night I wore a pink dress because I felt cute. I can bake a cupcake and then go play hockey.'

She thinks it's boring that everyone is so obsessed with what's in people's pants. 'Everyone asks, "Does Caitlyn Jenner have a d*ck?" But no one cared before what was in Bruce Jenner's pants,' she says, and goes on to explain her anger that transsexuals have to undergo the operation to be able to legally change their gender on their passports.

As for her own sexuality, she tells me, 'I'm very open about it - I'm pansexual.' In truth, I later have to Google the word to figure out exactly what it means, and find it to be someone who is open to all sexual orientations or gender. But Miley is sure to repeatedly tell me she's not looking for any kind of relationship right now. 'I'm 22, I'm going on dates, but I change my style every two weeks, let alone who I'm with.'

When Miley arrived at the photo studio earlier in the day, she was very hungover from what sounded like a heavy night. She showed everyone on set - and those 26 million Instagram followers - a temporary tattoo of an Australian flag on her bottom, and let us all know that it was put on by the guy she was with the night before. I assume she must have a thing for Aussie guys - she was, after all, engaged to actor and *Hunger Games* star Liam Hemsworth for three years before they split in 2013.

I wonder what happened to her and model Stella Maxwell - just weeks ago, she had shared pictures of them canoodling. 'Stella's awesome, but as soon as

'I'M VERY OPEN ABOUT MY SEXUALITY - I AM PANSEXUAL'



you hang out with someone, you get labelled as in a relationship. And I'm like, you can't just assume that everyone I'm sitting at dinner with is a date. It'd be like we're on a date right now.'

I do my best faux-outrage face, and hope she can't tell that's what

I've been pretending all night.

'Then you break up and it's everywhere. And it's like, "They've moved on," but actually often it's all good. Me and Liam are still so close and we love each other, and they make it like there is negativity.'

It seems like a very mature attitude to love and relationships - at 30, my own emotional IQ is the equivalent of 'pull my finger' by comparison.

'I feel a lot older. I don't want people to ever think I'm better or smarter than anyone else who is 22, but all my friends are in their 30s and I grew up on a TV show where everyone was an adult. I think that's why I swooped into the relationship with Liam - it was nice to be around someone my age.'

Her confidence is resilient. I wonder, does she have any concerns at all? 'I've had really bad anxiety and depression in my life and a lot of that stemmed from the way I look. My mom was a pageant queen, as was my grandma, so I've been programmed with that. Now, I really try not to give a f*ck. I obviously have hang-ups, but I'm not going to get stuck on it. If you're funny enough and cool enough and confident, that's what will make you feel beautiful.'

Cheers to that. I order another wine, and notice Miley has barely touched her margarita. Maybe it's the hangover, or maybe she's not always quite as wild as she lets on.

I want to know more about the new album. Miley says it was written on the Bangerz tour, during which she felt lonely - particularly after her dog died. As a result, she wants it to be called *Miley Cyrus And Her Dead Pets*.

She recorded it in a studio in her backyard with the help of Wayne Coyne from The Flaming Lips. The sound is less pop than *Wrecking Ball* or *We Can't Stop*, instead rougher and braver. 'Yes, one of the songs talks about f*cking me and smoking pot, but they say a lot more,' she says. 'It's different to [Taylor Swift's] *Shake It Off*. I only use Taylor as an example as she's the most famous person right now, but if you make a song like that, then you're neutral, >



@MILEYCYRUS



Wool shirt, Anthony Vaccarello. Cotton pants, Tezenis. Rose gold earring, Alex Monroe

and everyone can like it. But with this work, I think [only] some people will like it. The Parent Television Council – they’re not going to love it. But then it’s not for them. I’m 22, I live in LA, all my friends live in LA, and this is how we think.’

She reveals that it’s her plan to give the album away for free. ‘So if you want it, you download it, and if you don’t like it, you can trash it. It takes a lot of stress and competition off it.’ Then she adds, ‘It might get to number one, but I didn’t want to think if it’s not, then I failed.’ I suspect she’s nervous about how it will be received, but with true Miley bravado, she’s not letting on. I ask, if it all goes wrong with the music, would she ever consider a career in politics? From what I’ve heard today, I hope she’ll say yes – it would certainly shake up Washington.

‘No, I couldn’t be Obama. There are too many idiots in politics, and I have a short fuse. Plus, I would need to be older and smarter. I’d need to read the papers every day. But the trouble with politics is that it’s all old men. I don’t want a man to do anything for me because they’re so disorganised. You need a woman in there taking care of sh*t,’ she says with a smile, and it’s clear she’s rooting for Hillary Clinton. ‘I’m excited that it’s soon to change. If we can go from a black president to a female one, we’re finally living up to being the land of freedom. To have a female president will be so powerful and inspire women.’

With that, two of Miley’s friends – music video director Diane Martel (the woman behind Robin Thicke’s controversial *Blurred Lines*) and a young male friend – arrive and join our table. We all sit around discussing Miley’s music. I have yet another glass of pinot, the star stays sober.

After a short while, Miley politely makes her excuses, pays for our drinks, saying she needs to go feed her pig (called Pig) – although I suspect it’s the Australian from last night she’s keen to get back to.

If this really had been a date, I’d have been utterly wooed and wondering how soon it would be acceptable to send a text. On the surface, Miley may seem a muddle of contradictions – a Maserati driver helping the homeless, a feminist gyrating on stage in the buff – but she’s absolutely, refreshingly confident that it’s OK to occupy a grey area.

She holds a giant foam middle finger up to labels and refuses to be limited by other people’s ideas of what it means to be bisexual, a feminist, an activist or even a party girl. She says, ‘I want people to live their lives, have all the things they love, but they just have to do *something* that isn’t self-serving.’ Miley is leading by example and the world might just be a better place if we all followed suit.

Miley Cyrus *And Her Dead Pets* is out now ➤

MILEY IN MINUTES

Favourite app

Brief Me. It gives me the top five news things going on.

Best teacher

Mrs DeVere, my second grade teacher – she always believed in me and put me in plays.

Life motto

Be happy, love what you do, f*ck everything else – without hurting anyone.

Midnight last night

Drunk, tie-dyeing T-shirts.

Dream superpower

Reading minds, as I want to detect lies to see if people are bullsh*tting.

Always in the fridge

Avocados and almond milk.

Most overused words

Badass and dude.

Favourite exercise

Ashtanga yoga. I love it. If anything was ever my religion, that’d be it.

Best advice

Take care of people in the world.

Favourite film

Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind or *The Truman Show* – I love Jim Carrey.

Hidden talent

I love making art and doing crafts. I shot and made my new album cover myself.

Soundtrack to life

A Johnny Cash record or The Flaming Lips – I hope my album sounds as if they had a baby.

Advice for the young

Care most about what you think and know that there’s so much more to being beautiful than the physical.

EXCLUSIVE VIDEO



ELLE WATCH IT

Get behind the scenes with our exclusive Miley video



Cotton shirt, H&M.
For shopping details, see Address Book. Hair: Andy LeCompte for Wella Professionals at The Wall Group. Make-up: Sabrina Bedrani at Tracey Mattingly using Dior. Manicure: Stephanie Stone at Nailing Hollywood using Chanel. Set design: Lauren Machen at Redeye Reps. On-set production: Frank Roller at glamPR.com. Film: Duy Nguyen at Mondial Creative. With thanks to: Milk Studios and the Hotel Palomar, Beverly Hills



40% of homeless youth identify as LGBT, and family rejection is the most common reason LGBT youth experience homelessness

100% of sales from Miley's special edition Mac Viva Glam lipstick and lipgloss go towards helping people living with or affected by HIV/Aids



'THIS IS THE THING I'M MOST PROUD OF'

MILEY CYRUS



25% of homeless youth have been physically or sexually abused

'To me, support and acceptance mean respecting me and having my back when I'm forced to deal with the bigoted ass*les of the world.'

Nina (right), 23, from Mumbai, India, who co-founded the non-profit organisation Trans Lifeline with her wife Greta (left), 46



'I'm hopeful that more transgender stories will come out and people will see that what is different is beautiful, and it's nothing they should be scared or apprehensive about.'

Gigi, 19, Montreal



THE HAPPY HIPPIE

FOUNDATION

On 5 May 2015, Miley Cyrus launched The Happy Hippie Foundation to rally young people to fight injustices facing homeless youth, LGBT youth and other vulnerable people. One of its projects is #InstaPride, a collaboration between Miley and Instagram featuring gender-expansive individuals. Here are the facts...

1 in 3 transgender people have been turned away from homeless shelters

'We are living in the trans-moment of history when people can claim their trans-ness. This is the great civil rights movement of 2015.'

Precious Davis, 29, with fiancé Myles, 33, both Chicago



'The biggest misunderstanding is no doubt the difference between sexual orientation and gender.'

AJ, 18, Townsend, Massachusetts



1.6 million youth in the US are homeless each year

For more information go to happyhippies.org

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LONDON CALLING

*'Cool' is every London girl's calling card. **Dune's** autumn/winter 2015 collection nails her inherent nonchalance. You'll want it all*



GIRL MEETS BOY

Elevate your boyfriend jeans with embellished flats and a pop of colour for special brunch dates and weekend strolls. A pointed flat lengthens your leg to give mannish trousers a feminine finish. Smart tasselled loafers and a mock croc 'lady' bag make cosy Sunday knits look super-chic.



Left: 'Gloria' tasselled patent leather loafer, £85



Above: 'Gift' embellished patent leather loafer, £85, and 'Evita' suede bag, £65. **Left:** 'Domino' faux-leather croc print bag, £75



LADIES FIRST

Inject some summer spirit into your winter work wardrobe with bohemian accessories. Tasselled suede boots add a laid-back vibe to city tailoring, while a cross body satchel gives your inner hippie a modern, sophisticated update.



Left: 'Prestonn' block-heeled leather ankle boot, £115



Above and below-left: 'Patience' block-heeled suede ankle boot, £129, and 'Lorena' faux-fur stole, £35.
Below-right: 'Delphine' faux-leather cross-body bag, £59





Above: 'Prett' leather zip-up ankle boot, £129.
Right: 'Divine' faux-leather hobo tote, £69



SHOP IT See more of the collection online at dunelondon.com/elle

WORKING FOR THE WEEKEND

Your workwear uniform rests on four key shoe styles. Banish boring court shoes and indulge in a little embellishment for speedy desk-to-date-night transformations. Cute socks add a cool finishing touch to classic lace-ups. Biker boots are your go-with-everything saviour - and comfy too. The LBB (little black boot) is a desk-side essential for big meetings, or better yet, big nights out.



Above: 'Brionie' embellished satin court shoe, £115



Above: 'Filipo' patent leather lace-up £69, and 'Daffie' structured faux-leather tote £69. **Right:** 'Poloma' leather biker boot, £115





 @LOTTEJEFFS

*Sexuality doesn't always fit the boxes we've created for it. Now, a new generation of women are rejecting labels of 'gay,' 'lesbian' or 'bisexual,' and identifying instead as 'fluid'. ELLE's Deputy Editor **Lotte Jeffs** investigates the rise of label-free love*

The new rules of attraction

My girlfriend and I have very different taste in men. One of our favourite ways to spend a Sunday morning is to sit in the window of a cafe and haggle over the handsomeness of guys who walk by. In terms of type, Justin Bieber, Leo circa-*Romeo + Juliet*, and David Beckham pre-beard are all big fat 10s for me. Jen is less into pretty boys, and prefers Don Draper-like hunks. When we were introduced to Jamie Dornan at a restaurant by an actor friend recently, we both turned 50 shades of cerise

and swooned, ridiculously. Don't get me wrong: to do anything more than ogle the opposite sex would not be OK. We're a happy, committed couple and have been so for over five years. She's a girl, I'm a girl. But does being in a relationship make us lesbians? I used to assume it did and I was totally fine with that. Now, I don't actually think it matters.

At the time of writing, Kristen Stewart, Cara Delevingne and Ireland Baldwin have all unofficially introduced us to their girlfriends without making any definitive

announcement about their sexuality. You might wonder why they don't come out as bisexual – an identity that acknowledges an attraction to both sexes – but it's the labelling of one's sexual identity as *anything* that they're rejecting. 'Bisexual' can feel as absolute an identity as 'gay' or 'straight', and for these women, it's not black and white. The singer St. Vincent – Delevingne's girlfriend [at the time of going to press] – put it well when she told *Rolling Stone* magazine, 'I don't think about those words. I believe in gender fluidity and sexual fluidity. I don't really identify as anything.'

I know a 'straight' woman who switched her Tinder profile to 'looking for girls' and has been having a lot of sex with a lot of women ever since. And I know a 'gay' girl who, after being dumped by her girlfriend of 10 years, has fallen in love with a man

'The question today is not, "Is it OK to be gay?" It's more, "Can we be every sexual identity at once, can we be some of them, or none of them, or even move between them?" In 2015, we fall in love with a person, not a gender'

and is trying for a baby. Neither of these women has once even mentioned how they define their sexuality now. They've just said, 'Hey, this is my new partner.'

But such embracing of sexual fluidity isn't a trend: it's a serious shift in attitude that has happened gradually over the past few years. Remember, equal rights and gay marriage weren't achieved by celebrities and hip twenty-somethings being fashionably ambivalent about their sexuality: people fought for change, and it is thanks to the men and women who risked all kinds of prejudice to speak out and be unapologetically homosexual at a time when it was very dif-



SHARE IT

What do you think about sexual labels? Tweet us at @ELLEUK

ficult to do so, that Delevingne is now inundated with heart-eye emojis from her 20 million-plus social media followers for saying, 'I think that being in love with my girlfriend is a big part of why I'm feeling so happy with who I am these days.'

The film adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's novel *Carol*, out in December, is a stark reminder of the sacrifices that women who fell in love with women in

the 1950s were forced to make. While Cate Blanchett (in the lead role) expresses no inner conflict about her own attraction to the same sex, her life is made miserable by her decision not to

go against [her] grain', and be pressured into remaining in a loveless marriage to a man.

How far we've come: gay marriage is now legal in 21 countries around the world, TV shows about lesbian relationships are winning Emmys and kids are growing up with far more openly gay people in the public eye. The question among young, educated, open-minded women today is not, 'Is it OK to be gay?' It's more, 'Can we be every sexual identity at once, can we be some of them, or none of them, or even move between them?' In 2015, we fall in love with a person, not a gender.

The chart-topping singer Jess Glynne is another of this new breed of celebrity speaking openly about her sexuality but refusing to negate its grey areas. She spoke in a magazine interview about being, 'f*cked over by the first girl I'd ever fallen in love with', but was reluctant to define her orientation any further, saying: 'I don't know what I want now – to be with a guy, with a girl, be with anyone.'

I got in touch with Kayla Goggin, a 25-year-old writer based in Savannah,

Georgia, after reading the essay she wrote about her own fluid sexuality for the feminist website xojane.com. I asked how she explains her sexuality to people who ask if she's gay or bi. 'People ask this but it's a real pain in the ass. I guess I would answer bi because that's easier to explain than invite people to plumb the annals of my fluctuating sexuality with me. Fluid or queer are better... but you've got to read the room, you know?'

In the latest series of Netflix drama *Orange Is The New Black*, Piper comes out to her parents by admitting, 'I have a prison girlfriend.' 'Does this mean you're officially a...' asks her uptight mother. 'It means I officially have a girlfriend,' Piper replies. I wonder how many women have used this line since.

Of course, not everyone understands such a reluctance to define one's sexuality. My friend Ally Jones, a 33-year-old illustrator from Brighton (the one who started swiping right on Tinder girls and discovered a whole new side to herself) says her mum has really struggled to get her head around it all. 'It's definitely a source of mental strife for her,' she says. 'She just can't understand why, if I'm still attracted to men, I am choosing to "make my life more difficult" by being with women. Her reaction to my same-sex partners is the closest thing to homophobia I've experienced.'

I'm very lucky that my sexuality isn't an issue for my family. I came out at 16, and even at my quite rough comprehensive secondary school in London, I may have been bullied for wearing the wrong trainers, but

never because I dated girls. And because I grew up feeling that there's nothing unusual about not being straight, and I've always been quite, ahem, successful with women, I haven't felt the need to experiment with the opposite sex. But unlike some lesbians who would rather poke their eyes out than sleep with a man, I'm happy to admit that on the Kinsey scale, I'm swinging somewhere between *Orange Is The New Black*'s 'butch' Big Boo and serial heterosexualist Taylor Swift.

When I was in my teens and twenties and still finding my place in the world, it felt really important for me to be a badge-wearing lesbian (I actually had a badge, this is not a metaphor). Now I'm in my thirties, I care less and less about my sexuality as a label: society has changed, and I know myself better. My partner, who has dated men and women, would describe her sexuality as similarly unfixed. Our life experiences before meeting each other meant she had previously identified more as straight, and me more as gay. But now we're together, messing around with these labels by acknowledging our attraction to men and to women, but most of all to each other, is really good fun.

Writer Goggin sees our cover star Miley Cyrus as a poster girl for fluid sexuality. She says, 'Cyrus really hasn't been afraid of talking about sexual grey areas and the sexual spectrum. The more people hear about it, the more it might be easier for people like me to have those conversations with the people in our lives. If it gives someone a frame of reference, then I think that's great.'

'I'm very open about it, I'm pansexual,' Cyrus told ELLE on (p236). 'I change my style every two weeks, let alone who I'm with.' When she was rumoured to be dating the Victoria's Secret model Stella Maxwell, she posted countless Instagram shots of them canoodling, rather than tell her 26 million followers she was in a 'lesbian' relationship. The reaction? A collective shoulder shrug.

'I'm not hiding my sexuality,' she told *Time* magazine recently. 'There are times in my life when I've had boyfriends or girlfriends. And there are times when I just

'Unlike some lesbians who would rather poke their eyes out than sleep with a man, I'm happy to admit that on the Kinsey scale, I'm swinging somewhere between Orange Is The New Black's "butch" Big Boo and serial heterosexualist Taylor Swift'

love being with myself and don't want to give part of myself away to someone else.'

What I think is so great about Cyrus is not just her way with a wrecking ball, but how, despite identifying as fluid herself, she campaigns for gay rights, and isn't afraid to speak out on behalf of the LGBT community - it's not a case of, 'Yeah, I date girls but I'd hate anyone to think I'm a lesbian.' She's being refreshingly honest when she says of her own sexuality, 'I'm just equal [in the genders she's attracted to]. I'm just even. It has nothing to do with any parts of me or how I dress or how I look. It's literally just how I feel.'

Hannah Marshall, a 33-year-old creative director from London, has been in a relationship with Romy Madley Croft (singer and guitarist in the band The xx) for four years. Before meeting Romy, she had been engaged to a boy she had known since school. 'We gradually grew apart as our paths were heading in different directions,' she tells me. 'I have always resonated with what Patti Smith once said: "We go through life. We shed our skins. We become ourselves."'

Rather than say she's a lesbian now, Marshall likes to refer to her 'girlfriend' and let people work out the rest for themselves. 'The only problem is that in the States, people think I'm just meaning a girl who's a friend!' Of her personal story she explains, 'In the end it's very simple - I fell in love, and that person just happens to be of the same gender. I found someone that I have a deep connection with on every level: emotionally, physically, mentally, spiritually and creatively. Love is love.'

It's a sentiment echoed by lots of my friends, not least my own girlfriend Jen. She says her sexuality has evolved in a way she didn't really expect. 'I used to like the idea of experimenting, but ultimately

thought I was straight and always would be. I thought the worst thing would be to be bisexual, because that would make choosing a life partner very difficult. But now, I just feel content that in reality, everyone has to choose just one person to be with, so what difference does it make that the person I've chosen is a woman?' As Delevingne implores on her Instagram bio, 'Stop labelling. Start living.'

After all this gadding about in the grey areas of sexuality, I wonder if I can really claim to be 'fluid' if the closest I've ever got to sealing the deal with the opposite sex was an ill-advised massage from the deckhand on a yacht in Turkey? What I can say is I was queuing outside the cinema for *Magic Mike XXL* tickets, with three mini bottles of prosecco in my handbag on the day it opened. Does that make me straight, bi or just boy-curious? Who cares? Knowing I'm not 100% anything is enough of a sexual identity for me right now. And plus, if anyone asks, I was at the screening for that other icon of fluid sexuality, Amber Heard, who plays Tatum's (unrequited) love interest in the film. 'I don't want to have to deny my sexuality in order to be me,' she has said. 'But I don't want to have to be defined by it. I'm fundamentally opposed to trying to edit myself to be palatable or popular. I don't give a f*ck.'

Yeah, what *she* said (and all those ripped, naked men). ●

ELLE **READ IT** Like this? Find more of Lotte's writing at elleuk.com/tags/ellevoices



WHAT MAKES A WOMAN?

Three women with very different childhoods – one trans, one who grew up without a mother, and one who was a dedicated tomboy – discuss how they defined femininity on their own unique terms

Words **Lou Stoppard**

At a time when gender identity is firmly in the spotlight, womanhood has never been so widely observed and analysed. But such a broad, abstract concept means something completely different to every woman. Is femininity just a performance, as gender theorist Judith Butler once argued? Or is our sense of womanhood beyond our control, shaped by early experiences in our childhood? Indeed, femininity is personal, complex and tied irrevocably to circumstances that we often have no control over. So the best way to understand is to listen to each other's stories...

HARINEF, 22,

is a New York-based model.

She was the first transgender woman to be signed globally by IMG model agency and has starred in the Selfridges Agender campaign



For me, being a woman was a line of best fit. If I was a political radical who wanted to dedicate her whole life to the war on gender, I'd probably make a big statement about not having to be a man or a woman, but that's not what I want to spend my time doing. So I looked at my options - of which there are basically two - and I chose the one that felt best.

I do feel a certain amount of pride as someone who completely constructed herself from the ground up. None of this was given to me - this body was not given to me and my standing as a woman was not given to me. I had to earn all of this for myself; every trans person has to make that for themselves and I think that's why trans people are so strong.

When I was little, I didn't think about my gender. I was just in the suburbs of Newton, Massachusetts, going to school, hanging out with my friends. There was no trans visibility. I didn't really know what a trans person was until I was about 13, and then it was only people such as the cult New York celebrity Amanda Lepore, who I'd learned about via the arts nightlife scene on the internet. I didn't have the exposure or the vocabulary about my body to communicate any dysmorphia.

Being a little boy was easy. Being a teenage boy was kind of easy too, because I was living in a post-gay-liberation world, so it was a very different gender space than a lot of previous queer people may have felt. I was raised primarily by my mother, so I had a lot of strong female authority and a lot of mother/daughter time in my early developmental years. That said, I think I was shamed for a lot of my more feminine impulses. As a child, I'd want the Barbie at Toys R Us, then I'd hide under the counter because I was ashamed. I remember asking for the princess toy at McDonald's and not just seeing how uncomfortable that made the employees, but how it affected my parents. My mum was never too bad about it, but the male authority figures in my life were always trying to steer me in a different direction. Not because they're bad people, but because they wanted to keep me safe. I don't think they understood how to do that without shaming me.

I moved to New York when I was 18, and felt like I was in more of a safe space. The process was very fluid and organic - there was never an 'aha' moment for me. I was just going out and changing up my look, experimenting with drag. I didn't dive into being a woman - I added elements piece by piece.

The way I led my life just became more and more feminine and the only place left to go was transition. I felt like the way I saw myself didn't really sync up with the way people saw me. I was shaving my eyebrows, had bleached hair and wore make-up. But I would walk down the street and people would think I was a boy and would still say 'he'. It didn't feel like they were attacking me; the way I always describe it is like when a child throws a toy at your face and it kind of bounces off and you think, 'that hurt', even though you know they didn't mean it. That became my day-to-day life.

I think I internalised femininity through fashion and through pop culture, and started to create a woman in my head. People say that fashion has a limited idea of femininity, but it proposes so many different views of women and ideas that you don't have in the mainstream. I began to attach desires and value judgements to things, and eventually understood that this woman was stronger and better equipped than I was to deal with the world. I came to the point where I had no doubt that I would be a better person, a happier person, if I inhabited her.

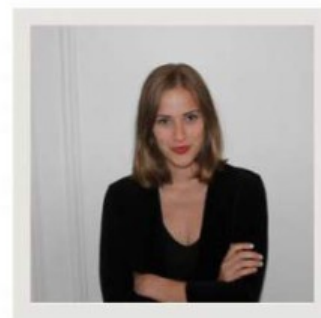
Life is different now. Aside from being a model, which has its own trials and tribulations, there's more of a fixation on my appearance. There also came a point, a couple of months ago, when I noticed that men stopped listening to me when I talked. It's all of the basic things about misogyny that I am just beginning to experience. There is also the element of being on hormone replacement therapy and essentially going through a second puberty. My emotions are up and down. All of this stuff is very new: some of it is chemical and some of it is cultural. Radical feminists ask, 'Why would you ever want to be a woman? Why would you ever want to give up that male privilege?' And I don't really have an answer for that other than the burden of being a man, for me, was far more severe than anything I've experienced on the other side.

Once you've changed gender, the annoying aspects of daily life become secondary. I sweat the small stuff less. I'm very happy. I'm not saying that trans women are more evolved than other women, but I really do think they are the coolest, most beautiful people in the world because everything about them in relation to their gender, their appearance, the people they 'are', they built. And while I do want to advocate for the trans community as much as I can, my relationship to femininity and gender isn't universal. There are many different ways to be trans. ▸

'I think I internalised femininity through fashion and pop culture, and started to create a woman in my head'

[@HARINEF](#)

CATRIONA MARSHALL, 26,
*is a Paris-based economist. As a child and teenager
growing up in London, she was a committed
tomboy who dedicated her life to sport*



I'm the youngest of three girls. From the start my elder sisters both cared about fashion and beauty - one is a fashion curator now and the other is in PR. They really were great at everything, and when you have siblings that excel at school and have lots of friends, you want to find something that's yours. We all did a lot of sport, but I always did more and that was the thing that differentiated me. It helped me to be unique and have my own identity. I was a total tomboy and being one of the boys by learning to skateboard or running around outside was probably my way of saying, 'Well, I can't play violin, I can't play piano, I can't do ballet like you guys, but I'm still cool and good at something.'

I started gymnastics when I was two and I ended up doing it for Great Britain. By the time I was 10, I was training 40 hours a week. I would go to the gym at 5am, finish at 9am, go into school late, go straight back to the gym at 4.30pm, eating my dinner and doing my homework quickly on the way, and stay there until 9pm. It meant that I didn't have time for anything else. I didn't really develop tastes, I just needed clothes that were convenient, comfortable and good for travel as I went all round the world competing.

Sport had a physical effect on me - I did so much, my body didn't develop and I hit puberty much later. I think that contributed to me being a tomboy. But I remember watching girls run around the school field at about 13 with big boobs thinking, 'Thank god I don't have that. Thank god I can wear a T-shirt with no bra.' I suppose I didn't really want to have a girlie body, because it would have made it much harder to do sports at that level. Because I was training, I also wasn't interested in fashion or kissing boys - I didn't care about wearing a nice dress to the school dance because I didn't care about going to the school dance - I was too busy.

Between the ages of 12 and 16 I lived with my dad, Thomas. My mum, Sheila, and my sisters, Moira and Shonagh, moved to Norwich, but I stayed in London to do gymnastics. Those really are important years and I think I underestimate the impact they had on me. I always had my sisters on the phone, but I didn't have somebody there day-to-day being like, 'I don't think that you should wear that giant Nirvana T-shirt and those baggy jeans.' I think I did miss out on the censoring part of

'Sport had a
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on me. I did so
much, my body
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that contributed
to me being
a tomboy'

having sisters - and the [clothes] borrowing. My dad was an air traffic controller, but his passion was economics. He loved reading the *Financial Times*. His friends would come round [to discuss finance], and I wanted to talk about it and be taken seriously by them. I don't think I consciously decided to go into a male-dominated field, but maybe I wouldn't have realised what I was interested in if I hadn't been trying to have conversations about finance with grumpy old men. I think that working in economics has caused me to retain some of my more masculine elements. I am always trying to be taken seriously, which is easier if you're in a suit.

I was definitely influenced by my surroundings. I do think a lot of my tomboy spirit was environmental, because as soon as I was older and was doing less sport and living with my sisters, I immediately thought how much I liked all the cool clothes they were wearing and what would suit me. I started to borrow their things and that's when my girlier side developed, because it was there in front of me.

I also think I'd grown up a bit and had realised that things weren't so black and white, or that there wasn't such a clear line - it wasn't that you're either a girl who's into fashion and lipstick and hanging around the shopping centre, or you're someone who's going to hang out outside doing something fun with the boys. I realise you could be someone in the middle and develop your own style.

Today, I do wonder if I'm still a tomboy or not. I think if somebody met me for the first time, they'd say no. You can't tell on the surface - I have [feminine] hair and I do like clothes - but I think it's still there in my personality.

I worry sometimes when I see young girls with expensive clothes and handbags when they're only 10 or 11. While in some ways gender identity has changed and things are a lot more open now, I think there is more pressure to have style and be a young adult much earlier. I remember being able to not worry. It was OK for a kid to be a kid and to wear the same thing over and over. With celebrity culture and easy access to the media, it's so much harder for young girls not to feel the need to look girlie like the singers, models and actresses that they're seeing on Instagram all day. When I was that age, being boyish was wonderful - it really was just the freest and funnest thing I could do.

MEGAN KRUEGER, 29,

*is studying English Literature
at the University of Wisconsin-
La Crosse and working at
an animal shelter. She grew up
without a mother
for the majority of her life.*



My mother disappeared in 1989, when I was three. She was working in PR and came home from work saying she had a last-minute conference the next day; she left at 4.30am with her bags packed to go to the airport. Apparently there was a car waiting for her out front. My dad, Tracey, got me up and ready to go to my grandparents' that morning and he went to work. He was there for about an hour when my mother's work called him and asked where she was. My dad said that she was at the conference, and her boss said there was no such thing taking place. Today, she is still a missing person. Well, technically, I think she was declared dead after seven years of being missing. It's been 26 years now and there are still no answers.

I was so young that I don't really remember her. I have a few snippets of one-second scenes in my head, like being in the shower with her or running in the kitchen while she was talking with my dad. But overall I just remember growing up with my dad and my grandparents, and it was normal. My dad says I asked a few times where Mummy was, but I don't remember having those moments, which I think is a good thing.

Because of my grandmother, I did have a strong female presence to learn from. She grew up in Europe in the Great Depression so was an amazingly tough German woman. I think that my family was hit by so much tragedy that really, rather than the soft side of femininity, it was more about being a strong Rosie the Riveter type. As a woman, you do need to have a sense of independence and be able to take care of yourself. A lot of women really put everyone else first, but you don't truly become complete until you learn how to treat yourself well.

I failed miserably at that when I was about 18 or 19. I wasn't happy during my first year of college, so I decided to stay home and not return, and my dad and grandparents weren't pleased - they wanted me to continue my studies. They said, 'You're still under our roof, you need to obey our rules.' So I moved into this crappy one-room apartment and within a few months I was barely paying any of my bills, my water and electricity got turned off and I had eviction

notices. I was in a very abusive relationship that lasted about a year and a half and I ended up getting pregnant at 19. Eventually, I got that boyfriend sent to jail and I put the baby up for adoption shortly after she was born. That was my hardest time, but it's when I truly learned about motherhood and the importance of a strong maternal figure, because I knew the best thing for my baby was to be with people who could take care of her. I knew how much I loved her and I knew I was doing the right thing and that's when I started to confront the ghosts, learn more about my mother, ask more questions and let myself really feel.

For a long time, I resented her. I just felt like she left [me]. I would see pictures of her and I didn't find her pretty because she had a short haircut, which I hated. But over the years, through speaking to my family and reading her old diaries, I've realised she was clearly very depressed. I honestly believe she did leave on her own [terms] and felt she would be giving us a better life without her. Now, I find her so interesting and beautiful.

It's funny thinking about that whole nature/nurture thing, as I really am a lot like her. She was a journalist and I have the articles she wrote for the local paper. There are things she says that remind me of myself - when she wrote them she was the same age as I am now.

Now I even pay more attention to her style and try to bring it into my life a bit more. I do have some of her old jewellery that I wear a lot, especially her pearl necklaces and coral earrings. I also find pictures of her back in the 1980s wearing certain colours or patterns and I'll think, 'Oh, those are my favourite colours,' or, 'I really like stripes.' They are small things, but it's a way to connect. Because I don't remember her, sometimes I feel like the story of her is just a fairy tale. Finding similarities makes her seem real.

For years I used to look back and beat myself up because of mistakes I'd made and ways I'd acted. I think that's how I allowed myself to stay in an abusive relationship, because really I was abusing myself by being so angry all the time. Not doing that is hard - it's difficult for any woman, whether you've had a traditional upbringing or not. It took me many years to realise I can't change the past, but I can change myself. I still don't feel fully complete in who I want to be. I have a lot of work to do, but I've realised that I can achieve my goals, even if it's later in life. ●

*'I put the baby
up for adoption
shortly after
she was born [...] that's when I
learned about
the importance
of motherhood'*

READ IT For more on
the gender debate,
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NEW



Above: 'Vanier' wax jacket, £349, 'Speedmaster' top (just seen), £69.95, and 'Kestral Skinny' denim jeans, £99.95

Below right: Denim jeans (from left to right) 'Overbore Skinny' £89.95, 'Fireblade High Waisted Super Skinny', £99.95, 'Crossover Tomboy' £109, and 'Kestral Skinny' £99.95. All Barbour International

BIKER BLUEPRINT

*The epitome of biker chic since 1936, **Barbour International** takes it one stage further for a/w 2015 with a collection of premium denim, perfectly crafted to take you anywhere*



MORE ONLINE Check out all four styles on elleuk.com/bikerblueprint and choose your favourite

Right: 'Chicara' asymmetric wax jacket, £279, 'Electra' top, £59.95, and 'Overbore Skinny' jeans, £89.95.

Below right: 'Chicara' crew-neck jumper £149, and 'Kestral Skinny' jeans, £99.95. All Barbour International



A world apart from its country-dwelling older sibling, Barbour International is the rebellious biker girl sister to British heritage brand, Barbour. Celebrating the company's link to motorcycling since 1936, Barbour International has been creating cutting-edge bikerwear for nearly 80 years, so needless to say it knows a thing or two about the famous biker look. And new for this year? Its first ever denim collection – the perfect partner to the label's iconic wax jacket.

Choose your favourite fit from four key styles: 'Slim Fit', 'Skinny', 'High Waisted Super Skinny' or 'Tomboy'. The Skinny in the super-slick 'Stay Black' finish is a must-have for a/w 2015 and beyond – wear them to death and they'll retain their cool, inky colour.

The range's signature tyre-track embroidery stitching ramps up the style kudos, but it's the Reform™ 360-degree stretch technology that will really win you over. Creating a super-soft denim finish, the jeans stretch in every direction as you move for perfect fit and all-day comfort. Team with a biker jacket and slouchy knit from the range; don your favourite pair of chunky boots, and you'll have that off-duty-model look nailed.



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WATCH IT

ELLE's accessories editor Donna Wallace shares her styling tips in our behind-the-scenes video



CARDIFF NEW YORK LOS ANGELES



Needs date. Will travel (virtually)

*Why let a little thing like geography get in the way of true romance? What if Mr Right, Mr Right Now or your new best-friend-with-benefits happens to live thousands of miles away in California, or Australia, or Japan? **Lisa Reich** explores the new, far-flung dating frontiers. What happens next will surprise you*

The world used to be such a big place, but the internet has made it tiny. From sites such as match.com to newer apps like Happn (that man you just walked past in the street? He could be yours), it feels like there's never been a better time to date.

And the big headline hitter is Tinder Passport. It launched this year and in terms of love (and hooking up, if you want to be cynical), the possibilities suddenly seem endless. 'Nowadays people travel constantly, and a common problem users tell us about is that by the time they actually get a match and get to see the person, their trip is practically over. They want to

Photography: Jon Gorriegan.

LONDON

MILAN

TOKYO

MELBOURNE

swipe before they get there,' says Tinder CEO and co-founder Sean Rad (who is, for the record, handsome and single). By the laws of probability, wherever you go on your travels, there are Tinder users waiting for you, so you have to think big - you can fall in love anywhere in the world.

I've spent thousands of pounds on dating websites and matchmaking services. I persisted even after eharmony.co.uk informed me that there were no matches for me. The problem with mulling over 'personality-based' set-ups is that you ignore the snap decision and try to look beyond the immediate. I've worn my heart on my sleeve, my laptop and the soles of my shoes, and it's taken a beating.

While living in London, I've had some truly, spectacularly awful dates. Pocket Dave: said he was 5ft 10in, was 5ft 4in. Maybe the clue was in the title. I didn't mind that as much as I minded the fact he wanted to 'cut to the chase' before I'd even finished my first drink.

Then there was the guy from match.com who turned up at the restaurant in a blouson leather jacket and an unbuttoned turquoise shirt, bought me two expensive cocktails, popped to the gents' quickly and didn't come back.

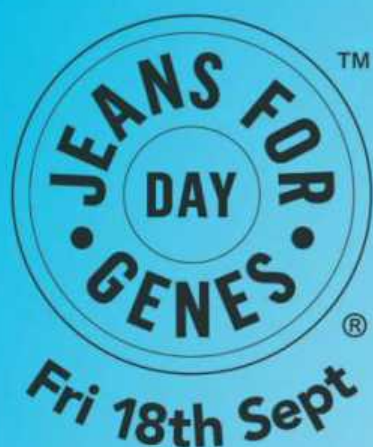
The best date ever was with a man called Dan, who lied about where he lived - which was Milan, not London. Still, he said, why let a little thing like that stop us, and flew me over. We had an amazing weekend. The earth moved, I finally realised what all the fuss was about, sex-wise, and it was just like a film. But this was

his thing, he said: a series of wonderful weekends, not a relationship. He was honest, I was heartbroken and on the journey back to the airport, I discovered he was a man who was terrified of women's tears.

Disastrous as it was, the Dan affair reminded me that there is a whole world out there for me to search. I may not have made it work with London, but look at the map! Look at the world! It's enormous and, thanks to the internet, loads of it is accessible and potentially stuffed with single men. And yes, I'm willing to invest time into finding me a perfect man, wherever in the world he may be. I'm the mountain, and I'm more than happy to make the

journey to wherever it is my Muhammad happens to be.

And so my adventure begins. I'm going global. To find out which city he is most likely to hail from, I research the top dating sites and apps for each city, then join them all - match.com, eharmony.co.uk, pof.com (Plenty of Fish), okcupid.com, Tinder and rsvp.com.au. To gauge my success rate, I will chart my unsolicited winks or favourites, and work out what percentage is positive (my hit rate). My travels may be virtual - no passport or suitcase required - but my commitment to finding love is very real. All I need is a computer, an open mind and a little faith. >



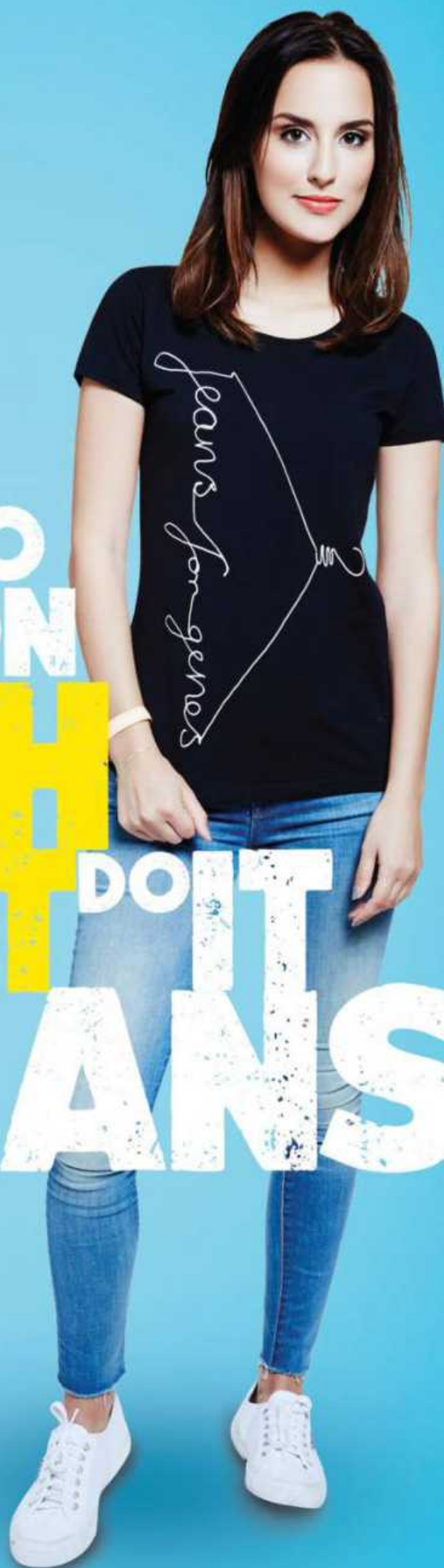
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NEW YORK

NEW YORK

Expectation

Pof.com's top data scientist tells me New York men fall mainly into three camps: weekend warrior (likes drink, money, and women); eternal optimist (considers himself happy, fulfilled) or artistic (into art, photography and cerebral pursuits).

Experience

There are 200,000 more single women than single men in the Big Apple. I've never been competitive and, while I love New York, she can keep her men. To date in New York, you have to invest a lot of time and always be superbly put together. I don't have the former, and my dog tends to be better groomed than I am these days.

Hit rate

37%

My favourite New York singleton

Max78

Him: What're you doing tonight?

Me: I'm actually in London, so watching Emmerdale probably. Sorry :)

Him: I know that show! So get on a plane, I'll meet you at Brass Monkey in Meatpacking, 10pm. You know where that is, right?

*Me: I'm in *London*.*

Him: So what? It's close, right? Few hours? I'll buy dinner and I'm a great lay(over) LOL.

Do...

Expect to work hard for your dollar: competition is fierce. 'NYC men have an entitlement issue when it comes to women because they have the advantage,' says my friend Lydia, who lives and dates in the Big Apple. 'To date here, you need to work it.'

Don't...

Go in with the expectation that you'll meet The One. Dating in New York can be fun, if you limit your expectations. It can happen, and it does. If you like to meet tons of new people and date five men a week, then go for it. Me, I'm not going to do well here.

Verdict

I'll always love New York, but not as a place to date. It's too ruthless for me.

Lessons learned

Hard work, but you'll be glad you did it. Not for romantic types with fantasies of bumping into your dream man while reaching for the same non-fat muffin.

ONLINE DATING

MELBOURNE

Expectation

There are some beautiful men here, so I don't think I'm going to do well - I'm not clean living or positive enough. Too much smiling makes me depressed. I join top Aussie dating site rsvp.com.au, and focus my attention on the hip Melbourne suburb of St Kilda.

Experience

Have I struck gold? I'm so popular. I wake to 12 messages, three of which I read. I could have really gone for GoneBoy222, but he sussed me out in email number three and wrote, 'Listen, you don't sound Australian. What's your game?'

Hit rate

41%

My favourite Australian singleton

AndyRStrikes111

Me: Thanks for the wink.

Him: That's it?

Me: Just wanted to say thanks, and maybe Strikes up a conversation (excuse the pun).

Him: Eh? So, you about later?

Me: No small talk?

Him: Time-waster alert...

Me: Probably.

Him: [De-favourites me.]

Do...

Select photos that are natural and fun - no posey ones. Have a sense of humour. Melbourne men have a reputation for being direct and attractive but I find that some also have an antenna for anything less than 100% genuine, which is at once reassuring and terrifying. They're proactive, not into time-wasting (ie prolonged messaging when you could be talking in person), so if you're like me and prefer to have exchanged at least 20 messages before you even talk about actually meeting, then you will need to reconsider your tactics.

Don't...

Faff about with long emails. They want to see the goods in person pretty soon after establishing you like each other.

Verdict

I think I'm drawn to Australian men because they're quite similar to the Welsh: rugby-obsessed, outdoorsy, big, strapping, manly... But it seems the ones I really like aren't that fussed about me.

Lessons learned

The opposite of New York. See something you like? Grab it with both hands and don't be shy. Aussie men can't be bothered with witty banter: it's all about the chemistry. If you spot a man you like, don't bother with the winking, the liking and the hints that you're interested. Write to him and say, 'I like the cut of your jib, you free tonight?' >

MEL

CARDIFF

Expectation

I know this sounds horrible, seeing as I'm Welsh, but I had low expectations. Historically, I have never fancied a Welsh man – except for Tom Jones.

Experience

After joining via match.com, I give it a day to see if there are any potentials. My hopes are dashed. These men are punching way above their weight. The ones who've winked and messaged are almost exclusively balding over-50s with hairy chests who take selfies of themselves sitting up in bed with a sated smile on their faces.

Hit rate

67%

My favourite Cardiffian singleton

WantRugbyUnion

Him: Where you from, butt?

*Me: *Butt*?*

Him: Welsh for mate, butt. LOL.

Me: Oh. So you're looking for a mate?

Him: In the man-woman sense, like. If she speaks Welsh, likes rugby and has an arse like any one of them Kardashis-wotsit sisters, I'll bloody marry her on the spot.

Do...

Be up for some sharp verbal jousting, but don't try to impress as they'll just laugh at you. Be aware that while in many cities it's normal to complain about where you live, Welsh men are fiercely patriotic. And to say that rugby is important to them isn't a stereotype, it's a fact.

Don't...

Expect an emotional one-to-one. Lots of Welsh men feel deeply but prefer to save the tears for when their team loses badly or wins the Five Nations. You'll know when a Cardiff boy is flirting with you by how much he makes fun of you. So if you're sensitive, brace yourself.

Verdict

The only ones that like me look like seasoned swingers.

Lessons learned

Have a sense of humour, and stop taking it all so seriously. They don't.

LA

Expectation

Zero. I like LA but consider it the antithesis of my personality. I'm a hermit, intimidated by really glamorous, outgoing, happy, beautiful people, and just too grumpy for this city.

Experience

As I filled out my profile on okcupid.com, I knew this was going to be an epic fail. I posted the photos of myself I liked the least and put minimal effort into selling myself (and that's what online dating is ultimately about). A negative approach, but if you don't put 100% into something, you don't feel so bad when you do fail, do you? Imagine my shock/horror/morbid curiosity when I checked my account 48 hours later and saw I had 21 messages, more than 200 views and 84 winks – it just compounded my theory that LA men are weirdos. I spent the next two days being shocked by how wrong I was.

Hit rate

74%

My favourite LA singleton

YoSaurusRex

Him: Hey you, how are ya?

Me: Bit grumpy. You?

Him: I'm just admiring how cute you are. Grumpy, huh? Really?

Me: Quite, 90% of the time, anyway.

Him: I'm 70%, so we match.

I kinda think we should play...

Me: Play what? Chess? Scrabble?

Top Trumps?

Him: Wow, you play chess? I'm totally up for that. When were you thinking?

Do...

Feel the fear and do it anyway. My brazen attitude to dating in LA clearly paid off.

Don't...

Allow your own hang-ups to skew your perspective of how you might be perceived.

Verdict

I start exchanging messages with YoSaurusRex. I think he's too young for me. He's 25 and I'm not. He is, I think, beautiful. He makes me feel... I don't know, just feel. So I don't write to him for five days and he sends me a short message to say he's worried about me and could I just say 'hey' so he knows I'm OK. He adds he can't wait to meet me, and I believe him.

Lessons learned

I'm a dating snob and I have no right to be. I dismissed LA men as being pretty baubles: fabulous fakers with ridiculously specific types. And then I realised that description fitted me better than any of them.

LOS ANGELES

And so...

I've learned a valuable lesson during the course of my research. I've been looking for love in the wrong places. And by that I don't mean bars or museums, I mean countries. This epiphany hasn't exactly filled me with hope though. Instead, I think I have a new condition I'm going to coin 'dating agoraphobia'. My inner hermit is pleading with me to shut Pandora's box. I'm half-listening. Then I've got StupidCupid_2015 whispering in my other ear, 'But what if? What if?'

I suppose it can't hurt to look at flights to LA, can it? I mean, what have I got to lose? And what if... well, let's leave it at 'what if'. ●



READ IT Find out more about Lisa's dating ups and downs at elleuk.com/tags/dating



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*The **ELLE Beauty Cupboard** is on its way to Bestival this summer – courtesy of **Rimmel London**. Join us!*

LAST SUMMER, our friends at Rimmel London brought festival beauty to Lovebox. This year, they're doing it again - bigger and more beautiful than ever. Over four glorious days at Bestival's Summer of Love-themed extravaganza this month, Rimmel London will be inviting festival goers to discover one of its hottest launches of the season - weeks before it hits the nation's beauty counters.

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Rimmel London and ELLE are heading to Bestival (Isle of Wight, 10-14 September) - and because we'd love to see you there we're giving away tickets to lucky ELLE readers. Go to elleUK.com/rimmel and enter your details for a chance to win.

Good luck!

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SPIRITED **AWAY**

A breakout role in Lars von Trier's *Nymphomaniac* has made
Stacy Martin a fearless actress and rebel role model

Words **Harriet Walker** Fashion **Anne-Marie Curtis** Photography **Kai Z Feng**



This page: Wool coat, £2,660, and patent-leather boots, £1,170, both Miu Miu
Opposite: Wool coat, and patent-leather shoes, both price on request, both Miu Miu. Cotton top (just seen), £60, Sunspel. Denim jeans, £225, Frame



This page: Cotton shirt, price on request, Miu Miu. Cotton corduroy skirt, £432, Isa Arfen **Opposite:** Cotton shirt, £95, Fred Perry. Snake-printed leather skirt, and leather bag, both price on request, both Miu Miu



When I first met Stacy Martin a year ago, she told me all about her motorbike – a Honda CGM125, one grade up from a pizza-delivery bike. It was her pride and joy, so this time I half expect her to turn up in full leathers, helmet in hand. Instead she meets me at a Soho cafe in a silk shirt, skinny jeans and Converse. She's had so much work on, she says, that she's accidentally let her licence lapse.

But being busy is no bad thing for a young actor.

'The way I entered acting meant I skipped the horrible part, which I sometimes forget,' she says. 'I was given an opportunity to start at a certain level.'

The opportunity in question was last year's part in Lars von Trier's controversial *Nymphomaniac*, the five-hour, two-part story of Joe, a woman dealing with sex addiction. Adult Joe is played by Charlotte Gainsbourg; Martin, now 24, was cast as her younger incarnation.

It was a bold start for someone who had never even been on a film set before – the role required a porn double for real sex scenes, and a prosthetic vagina, but more on that later.

Acting was initially Martin's hobby on the side of her Media Studies degree at London College of Communication, and only became a full-time focus after the film's release.

She took drama classes at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, where she met casting director Des Hamilton, who was then scouting for *Nymphomaniac*; he persuaded Martin to audition and meet von Trier in Copenhagen.

For many, the prospect of such a highly sexualised role might be daunting; the danger of being typecast forever after, even more so. She smiles. 'I never felt that naked, because I'd spent four hours getting a fake vajayjay.'

And before you ask, she had no involvement in the casting of the porn double for the scenes that featured real sex.

'When I read the script for the first time, I saw an extremely strong woman with a lot of pain,' she says. 'I was very conscious I didn't want it to be "sexy".'

While there was an argument that *Nymphomaniac* 'exploited' women, there's no denying that it offered far more in the way of character development for female actors than in your average Hollywood blockbuster.

There is a roll call of talented actresses who have made similarly daring debuts, helping to set a new precedent for more considered and challenging portrayals of female sexuality: Léa Seydoux and Adèle Exarchopoulos in lesbian love story *Blue Is The Warmest Color*; Chloë Sevigny's 'real' sex scene in *The Brown Bunny*; and Margo Stilley, whose debut *9 Songs* remains one of the most sexually explicit mainstream films to date. Happily, it seems that it is possible for actresses today to push creative boundaries without being marginalised or typecast forever.

Case in point, Martin's latest coup is a starring role in Miu Miu's new-season campaign as the face of its fragrance, Miu Miu Eau De Parfum, joining actresses such as Kirsten Dunst and Lupita Nyong'o on the label's books.

She was approached after Miuccia Prada saw her in von Trier's film, and invited to her first fashion show last year, where she met the designer backstage. 'She congratulated me,' Martin says, surprised at the sudden interest from an industry she had never particularly courted. 'I was like, "Me? What have I done?"' Martin modelled in her teens for extra

cash ('not high fashion – I was a dwarf to them!') but this is her first foray into the industry proper. And she hasn't quite gotten used to it yet: 'I went to this year's Met Ball and I was terrified. People don't see that you're actually queueing before. And it's not like queueing on the Underground – in front of you is Beyoncé and behind you is Bryan Cranston.'

Aside from the odd glamorous moments, Martin's life is largely quiet. After growing up between Tokyo and Paris (her family moved with her parents' jobs – her dad works in the beauty industry), she's spent the past six years in London, and now lives in Stoke Newington, North London, with her boyfriend, musician Daniel Blumberg.

She isn't interested in the selfie-centred world of young stars in the capital, and says people tend not to recognise her: 'My day-to-day is my personal life. It's exciting to do red-carpet things, and then be on the Tube, and just be human.'

She happily continues to make more art-house choices with her upcoming projects, both due out later this year. They include the Italian gothic *Tale Of Tales* and an adaptation of JG Ballard's *High-Rise*, starring Elisabeth Moss and Tom Hiddleston, who's totally convinced of his co-star's talents. 'Stacy is a complete natural – there is no artifice,' Hiddleston told ELLE. 'She's incredibly intelligent, intuitive and so easy to get along with.'

Her latest film, *The Childhood Of A Leader* (out October), sees her starring alongside Robert Pattinson. How did she feel about working with such a tabloid favourite? 'It was exhilarating,' she says. 'Every day was an eye-opener for me. Brady [Corbet, the director] assembled a great cast.'

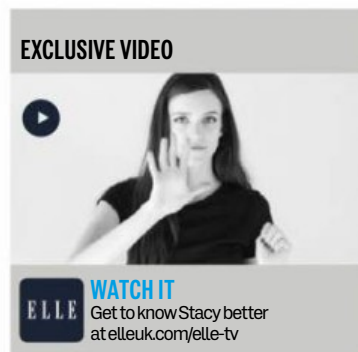
She says there are still not enough strong roles for women in film, but adds: 'I haven't worked in a setting where I haven't felt respected or encouraged.'

'For me, being a feminist is just a way of life, not necessarily something you sign up to. I believe in equality between both sexes and, on a wider scale, with, say, someone that hasn't had the life I have. I guess that's just being humanist.'

Ever one for self-discovery, Martin recently consulted a shaman from The Golden Hummingbird, an organisation that provides fortune tellers to the A-list, and specialises in spiritual healing. 'I have two spirit animals: a fawn and a turtle. I can kind of see why – I like to travel and change, but at the same time I don't mind taking things quite slowly, taking my time to find the right kind of parts.'

But so far, it seems, the right kind of parts have found her. That motorbike will just have to wait. ●

Stacy Martin is the new face of Miu Miu EDP, £45 for 30ml





Wool jumper, £120, Guernsey. Plastic glasses, £230, Prada. Crystal and enamel necklace, £890, and plastic sunglasses, £225, both Miu Miu



ELLE turns 30 this month and we're celebrating three decades of game-changing achievements. But these 30 young women are giving us a run for our money. Meet the tastemakers,

THE ELLE opinionators, future-shapers and art creators who are transforming your world. Be inspired

thirty under

Words **Georgia Simmonds**

thirty



SAMANTHA JOHN, 28
PROGRAMMER
AND ENTREPRENEUR

If you want to be relevant in our technical age, you need to get with the programme – literally. That's where Samantha comes in. She's the co-founder and Chief Technology Officer at Hopscotch, an app that teaches children how to code. During its first week of release, Hopscotch was downloaded a massive 20,000 times.



[@SAMJOHN](#)



LUCY HALL, 23
2012 TEAM GB
OLYMPIC
TRIATHLETE

English elite athlete Lucy represented Team GB at the London 2012 Olympic Games, aged just 20. She was the first competitor to exit the Serpentine, making her the fastest swimmer in triathlon. Her outstanding feats in the water in France, where she races in the Grand Prix, have earned her the nickname *la sirène* (mermaid). Rio 2016 is next.



[@LUCY_TRI](#)



RUBY TANDOH, 23
BAKER AND WRITER

Former *Great British Bake Off* contestant, *Crumb* author and ELLE columnist Ruby is fast becoming one of the most compelling voices of her generation. She came out as gay to her 64,500 Twitter followers earlier this year, and is outspoken about feminism and women's relationships with food and their bodies. She says she is 'always either eating or thinking about eating, and dresses and dances like a dad at a wedding.'



@RUBY.TANDOH

@EMMABlackery



EMMA BLACKERY, 23
VLOGGER

Emma's main YouTube channel has more than 1 million subscribers and her total views exceed 80 million. Her goal is to entertain, educate and inspire young people to fight against life's setbacks, big and small, and to do the things they love. She is also a musician and her second EP, *Distance*, reached No. 1 on the iTunes Rock chart within the first week of its release.



@BONITANORRIS



BONITA NORRIS, 27
EXPEDITIONIST

A typical day for Bonita is quite literally spent on top of the world. She is the youngest person to reach both the summit of Mount Everest (back in 2010, aged 22), and the North Pole (in 2011, at 23). She also broke records by scaling the world's fourth highest mountain, Lhotse, in 2012. Bonita frequently raises money via charitable expeditions and speaks to schoolchildren about reaching their potential. ▶



MICHAELA DEPRINCE, 20
DANCER

After her father was killed during the Sierra Leone civil war and her mother died from starvation shortly after, Michaela spent her early childhood moving from orphanage to refugee camp, where she suffered abuse and malnourishment, before an American couple adopted her in 1999 and moved her to the States at the age of four. In her new home of Pennsylvania, Michaela began her ballet training, eventually climbing the ranks to star in the documentary *First Position* and joining the Dutch National Ballet in August 2013, where she remains the only dancer of African origin in the company.

"To me, success is less about money and more about personal fulfilment and happiness by having my dreams come true. I have two mottos: "Never look back" and "To thine own self be true."

@MICHDEPRINCE





EMILY BROOKE, 29
BUSINESSWOMAN



As the founder and CEO of Blaze - a company making products for urban cyclists - Emily has made it her mission to improve cyclists' safety, starting with the Blaze Laserlight. It's a bike light with a laser projection designed to tackle the biggest cause of cycling fatalities: vehicles turning into the path of an unseen bike. This year, Emily received the Veuve Clicquot New Generation Award. Previous winners, such as Decoded's Kathryn Parsons, have gone on to big things.

[@BUZZBROOKE](#)

[@JADEJONESTKD](#)



JADE JONES, 22
ATHLETE

The definition of fierce, Jade won Britain's first taekwondo gold medal representing Team GB at the Summer Olympics London 2012, making her Britain's youngest Olympic champion at the games. Jade was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2013 for her services to taekwondo.

'I attribute my success to my upbringing: I was a tomboy, always wanting to be the best in any competition. I have carried that into professional taekwondo. You only get one life, so live it.'

[@THEMOHIMA95](#)



MOHIMA AHMED, 20
APP DEVELOPER

In a world of wannabe app developers scrambling to create the next Angry Birds, Mohima is a true force for change. She is trustee at Apps For Good, an award-winning, open-source education technology movement that aims to build the next generation of problem-solvers. Mohima was appointed after developing an English to Bengali translator app to help parents and school teachers communicate better.



OLIVIA WOLLENBERG, 26
BUSINESSWOMAN

Olivia is a psychologist and neuroscientist turned baker and entrepreneur. Her parents let her convert their house into a factory and she's been producing nutritious crumbles (free from wheat, dairy and refined sugar) in their kitchen for the past year. The Livia's Kitchen range is stocked at Selfridges, Harvey Nichols and Planet Organic. What's next? Cooking courses. #CrumbleIsTheNewCake



[@LIVIAS_KITCHEN](#)

ELLEUK.COM



OLIVIA COOKE, 21
ACTRESS

The Oldham-born actress is the lead in *Me And Earl And The Dying Girl* (out 4 September), which won both the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at this year's Sundance Film Festival. She has more independent films in the pipeline following 2014's set of supernatural thrillers *The Signal*, *Ouija* and *The Quiet Ones* (also starring Sam Claflin). Watch this space.

'I think what I most attribute my success to is saying yes. Taking every opportunity. Trying to hold on to whatever journey you think you may be on by the skin of your teeth.'



Photography: Jay L. Clendenin/LA Times/Contour by Getty, Stephen D Lawrence, David Newby, Sam Peach and Tara Davidson, Jon Surbey, Instagram/Livaskitchen, Southern News & Pictures.



DIVYA NAG, 24
HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY
PIONEER

Divya is a stem cell researcher turned healthcare technology specialist, and the founder of healthcare innovation companies StartX Med and Stem Cell Theranostics. Barely out of university, she's already engaged in discussions with President Obama on women in entrepreneurship. Earlier this year, she joined a research and development team at Apple for a top secret medical and healthcare product.



[@DNAG09](#)



LAUREN CURRIE, 28
DESIGNER AND
INNOVATOR

[@REDJOTTER](#)



When she was 23, Lauren co-founded service design agency Snook - which has worked with charities, the British Council and Macmillan Cancer Support - in her native Scotland. In addition, she set up citizen forum MyPolice, is the programme leader designing and running an MA in Digital Experience Design at Hyper Island (the 'digital Harvard'), and runs Nightriders, an online network she set up to support first-time entrepreneurs. Some know her as Redjotter, the name of her popular design blog. >

 @MAISIE.WILLIAMS



MAISIE WILLIAMS, 18
ACTRESS

Bristol-born Maisie is best known for playing Arya Stark in smash hit *Game of Thrones*, a role she won when she was just 12 years old. She's grown up in the spotlight and has used her fame as a platform to discuss her personal experiences with cyberbullying. At this year's Berlin Film Festival she was honoured as the UK's Shooting Star (Daniel Craig and Rachel Weisz received the accolade previously).

FIVE MINUTES WITH MAISIE WILLIAMS

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE IN YOUR 20S? Possibly something on stage that indulges my passion for dancing. I don't have a long-term plan. I like to be open about the future and go with the flow.

DESCRIBE YOUR DREAM ROLE The girl you met at that really boring dinner party who you chatted to for hours but you never got to say goodbye to and you can't remember her name. That's the type of girl I want to make movies about.

WHAT WAS THE LAST THING THAT TRULY INSPIRED YOU? The #LikeAGirl Confidence Summit. I met some truly inspiring women who are making history.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE CRITICS? I take everything with a pinch of salt. Compliments and negative opinions help to keep my feet on the ground.

WHAT ADVICE DO FRIENDS COME TO YOU FOR? Tips on how to keep calm about the future. This is a really crazy age for me and my friends, where we have to make huge decisions about our futures. I guess between us, I seem to have the strongest plan right now so I try to encourage others to pursue big dreams and strive to do better and be better.

WHAT'S YOUR DEFINITION OF A STRONG WOMAN? Someone who stands up for what they believe in. Someone who's also not afraid to be wrong and change her mind.

WHO DO YOU ADMIRE? Jessica Chastain. Her movies never cease to amaze me and I get the feeling she works very hard.

DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN FIVE WORDS? Passionate, loud, positive, inquisitive and grateful.

WHAT MANTRA DO YOU LIVE BY? Listen to those you respect, ignore those you don't.

WHAT ROLE DOES SOCIAL MEDIA PLAY IN YOUR LIFE? A positive one. It's boosted my career in a very big way but also in a way I can control. It's also made travelling away from home a lot easier.

WHO DO YOU HAVE ON SPEED DIAL? [My *Game Of Thrones* co-star] Sophie Turner #MophieIsReal.

 @MAUDEAPATOW



MAUDE APATOW, 17
ACTRESS AND WRITER

Maude is the eldest daughter of comedy king Judd Apatow and actress Leslie Mann. As a writer, Maude contributes to Zooey Deschanel's lifestyle website *HelloGiggles* and Tavi Gevinson's online magazine *Rookie*. Acting credits include a clutch of films directed by her father, and a TV debut in season four of Lena Dunham's *Girls*. Oh, and her Twitter following of 200k and rising is surely a teenage dream.

**TRACY CHOU, 28**

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Aspiring interns, take your cue from Tracy. The former Facebook and Google intern is now a software engineer at Pinterest, credited with contributing significantly to the company's growth. Before Pinterest, Tracy turned down a role at Facebook – she became the second engineer at question-and-answer website Quora instead. Where Are The Numbers? is a project driven by Tracy that aims to hold tech giants accountable for their diversity statistics. She also mentors at San Francisco's leading software engineering school for women, Hackbright Academy.

@TRIKETORA



@HAPPYASHLEYLAND

**ASHLEY WILLIAMS, 27**

FASHION DESIGNER

Fashion East alumna Ashley creates Americana pop clothes with Brit 'It' girl appeal. Her brand caters to a kind of haute hipster (her fans include Cara Delevingne and Alexa Chung) and we awarded her the Emerging Designer prize at the ELLE Style Awards this year. Ashley also co-founded label Funky Offish with best friend Pixie Geldof.

@MHAIRIBLACK

**MHAIRI BLACK, 20**

MP

Mhairi became the youngest MP in 350 years when she beat Labour's former shadow foreign secretary Douglas Alexander to the Paisley and Renfrewshire South seat as the Scottish National Party's candidate in the general election. She toppled Douglas' majority by more than 5,000 votes. Her maiden House of Commons speech was a masterclass in confidence, and has been viewed online nearly 11 million times.

'Success doesn't mean you have to win. You just need to try. Before I do anything I ask myself, is it truthful, is it kind and is it necessary? And if it is two out of three, then I do it.'

@PHOEBETBC

**PHOEBE****COLLINGS-JAMES, 27**

ARTIST

Phoebe started modeling when she was 13 and went on to study fine art at Goldsmiths in London. Now her multidisciplinary artwork is exhibited internationally. She is most prolific in sculpture, painting and video and explores themes of violence, sexuality, desire, and beauty. She also created a feminist blog for dialogues about art and feminism. >



MOLLY GODDARD, 26
FASHION DESIGNER

Molly left her fashion MA course at Central Saint Martins a year early to set up her business. It turned out to be a good move: her autumn/winter 2015 collection was supported by NEWGEN, shown at Somerset House and stocked at Dover Street Market. Her pretty awkward-prom-girl aesthetic and architectural way with netting scream modern romance.

[@MOLLYMGODDARD](#)



LOLA KIRKE, 25
ACTRESS

The Sundance-lauded, cinematic dream duo behind *Frances Ha* - Noah Baumbach and Greta Gerwig - returned this summer with *Mistress America*, another sparkling exploration of the human condition. Cue lots of existential conflict, executed with wry intelligence. Starring opposite Gerwig was Lola Kirke, sister of *Girls'* Jemima Kirke and the film's breakout star. The 2017-slated release of *Mena*, in which Lola stars alongside Tom Cruise and Domhnall Gleeson, is likely to confirm her as one of Hollywood's most promising new talents.

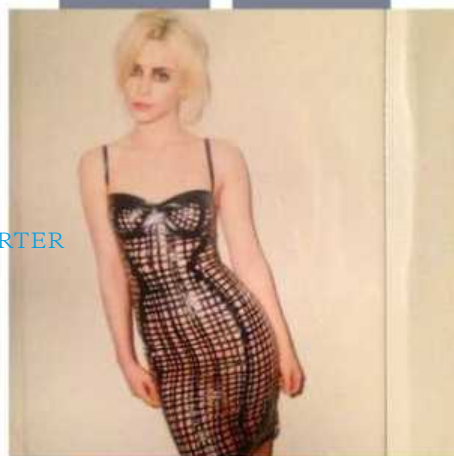


HANNAH HART, 28
AUTHOR, COMEDIAN,
INTERNET PERSONALITY

Over 2 million people subscribe to Hannah's YouTube channel (it has more than 164 million views and counting) and her series *My Drunk Kitchen* (cooking while sloshed, naturally) began in 2011. The first episode has now racked up 3.7 million YouTube hits (we'll repeat that: 3.7 million). In 2014, Hannah released *My Drunk Kitchen: A Guide To Eating, Drinking & Going With Your Gut*, a book she described as 'self-help parody meets drunk cooking'. And as if she weren't accomplished enough, she runs a charity initiative called Have A Hart Day, which organises volunteers to help at food shelters all over the world.



[@HARTO](#)



BILLIE JD PORTER, 23
WRITER AND FILMMAKER

Londoner Billie has been crafting a multi-platform career on her own terms since the age of 16 - across print, digital and television for brands including *NME*, *Vice* and *Wonderland*. She's modelled for Louis Vuitton and Levi's, and can DJ too. Her various documentaries on the cult of celebrity, teen sex, prostitution and the secrets of South America on C4 and BBC showcase her immersive interview style and ability to switch between sardonic and sensitive.

Photography: Lily Bertrand Webb, Contour by Getty, Aliya Mirza, Angelo Pennetta/Trunk Archive, Instagram/BillieJDPorter, Instagram/Harto, Twitter/LizaDye.

[@MELTEMAVCIL1](#)

[@FKATWIGS](#)



FKA TWIGS, 27

MUSICIAN, PRODUCER AND DANCER

Tahliah Debrett Barnett's multi-disciplinary creative output defies straightforward categorisation. To watch her perform is to be utterly immersed in her myriad influences – from *Swan Lake* to voguing – and uncompromising creative vision. Her world is one we want to be part of.



MELTEM AVCIL, 21

CAMPAIGNER AND
ACTIVIST

At 13, Meltem was locked up for three months in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre in Bedfordshire with her mother while their application to remain in the UK was being filed. On her release she joined the campaign to abolish the centre's detention of children, which was won in 2010. Now Meltem aims to save vulnerable women from suffering the same experience as her mother, and is spearheading a petition to Theresa May asking for the closure of Yarl's Wood, and an end to the detention of women seeking asylum. >



LIZA DYE, 25

ACTRESS AND
COMEDIAN

In February 2014, Liza, who hails from South Carolina, was hit by a subway train in New York. She woke up underneath the carriage, which nearly took off her leg, and spent three months in hospital. The way in which she turned this life-changing tragedy into a comedy act (by finding humour in her vulnerability) is a tribute to her resilience and determination. News of the accident galvanised fellow comedians (including Zach Braff) – they clubbed together to raise nearly £50,000 for Liza's medical bills.

[@LIZADYE](#)





TIFFANY PHAM, 28
BUSINESSWOMAN

[@TIFFTPHAM](#)

Tiffany is the founder and CEO of award-winning website onmogul.com, which connects women to stories, jobs and products that reflect their interests. Tiffany is also an acclaimed film producer and arts philanthropist.

*'Be kind.
Be authentic.
Be generous.'*



SOAK, 19
SINGER-SONGWRITER

Bridie Monds-Watson started performing her music when she was 14 - the same year she came out to her parents. Shortly after, she played at Radio 1's Big Weekend (when it came to her hometown of Derry, Northern Ireland in 2013) and Chvrches signed her on their singles label, Goodbye Records. Not a bad year, then. The skateboarding songwriter now known as Soak (a combination of the words 'soul' and 'folk') has since toured with George Ezra and was long-listed for the BBC Sound of 2015. Her debut studio album, *Before We Forgot How To Dream*, is out now.

[@SOAKOFFICIAL](#)



DEANNA RODGER, 25
SPOKEN-WORD ARTIST

[@DEANNARODGER](#)

Londoner Deanna became the youngest UK Poetry Slam Champion in 2007. She has performed at events in Buckingham Palace and 10 Downing Street, and is a resident artist at The Roundhouse. She was commissioned to co-write the script for the 2012 Olympic Team Welcome Ceremonies and explores homelessness on the BBC iPlayer spoken-word series, *Women Who Spit*.

'Success is cooking a meal for loads of friends and doing the washing up as I go along, so that by the end all that needs washing are the plates and cutlery. It's that feeling of everything inside and out whirling and spinning with ease and harmony. It means that something has been done with the best intentions and everyone is positively affected.' ●



[@WALTONLEONA](#)



BINX WALTON, 19
MODEL

Tennessee-born skateboarding supermodel Binx (nicknamed by her two brothers after the *Star Wars* character Jar Jar) made her catwalk debut in 2013 as a Marc Jacobs exclusive and has fronted campaigns for Céline, Chanel and Balmain. She's outspoken, undone and attitude-driven, and the fashion industry can't get enough.



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Compiled by **Hannah Swerling** Photography **James A Grant** Styling **Harriet Stewart**



[@ROBYNEXTON](#)

TECHNOLOGY

EDITOR

ROBYN EXTON, 29

While working with a dating business at her former marketing agency, Robyn Exton's eyes were opened to the tech sector. She became fascinated by the opportunities that apps and social networks could create for communities. 'At the same time, I noticed that all of the gay dating sites I'd been using had been built by men, for men, which meant none of them worked for me,' says Robyn. So she decided to set up the first dating platform truly for women, Her. Robyn learned to code, built a team, found investors and grew Her into the UK's most popular app for lesbian, bisexual and not-so-straight women.

Robyn recently moved to San Francisco to grow Her in America - and be at the cutting edge of technology, which consumes every area of her life: 'I've given up trying to understand the concept of "disconnecting" - WiFi is like crack to me. The longest I can go without looking at a screen is a couple of hours. I'm terrible at unplugging.'

Only 17% of the UK's tech jobs are held by women and one study found that 83% of girls come out of school having learned no computer coding (compared with 67% of boys). Robyn wants to change all that, not only with Her but also by expanding the network GeekGirl Meetup, created by a friend in Sweden for women and girls interested in tech, design and digital start-ups.

Robyn is determined to open up the industry to women who think it's 'not for them'; from coding to biotech to hardware, she believes that technology is everything. 'Our future is going to be pinned around tech - if you're not a part of it, you're going to be left behind.'

[weareher.com](#)



LAURA JACKSON AND ALICE LEVINE, BOTH 29

TV presenter Laura Jackson and Radio 1 DJ Alice Levine met two years ago at an Oxfam jumble sale and got chatting over a cat-print shirt. After an exchange of emails sharing recipes, restaurants and food ideas, they decided to set up a monthly supper club. It takes place in Laura's East London warehouse flat and often sells out in under an hour.

The pair set up the supper club as a passion project to create a fun environment for like-minded foodies to enjoy a home-cooked meal and a glass (or three) of wine. For Laura and Alice, entertaining is all about the details. They curate everything, from the menu and seating plan to the music and glassware. They admit, however, that it once took them 12 attempts to make a lemon tart.

The pair are at the heart of the London foodie scene. They recently hosted a charity dinner featuring big-name chefs such as Chiltern Firehouse's Nuno Mendes and James Lowe, Head Chef at Lyle's. Laura just completed work experience (yes, really) at the Rochelle Canteen and Alice has been learning how to make ice cream with Blu Top Ice Cream. They count Rosie Birkett and Gizzi Erskine as friends and eat out at least five nights a week.

'We're not experts,' admits Jackson. 'We do it because we love eating and talking about food.' The pair never argue, which they put down to a perfect balance of personalities. 'We have different opinions, but we always manage to meet in the middle. Alice listens and she's organised, and I'm like a jack in the box. Alice is the calm to my storm.'

Read their idea for the dream ELLE restaurant on page 149.
jacksonandlevine.co.uk



POLITICS

EDITOR

ELLIE GELLARD, 26

Ellie Gellard is Head of Communications at the charity 4Children and a Labour Party activist. The Londoner first became interested in politics at 16 after falling ill with meningitis. 'Lying in an NHS hospital for a month, I knew this place had saved my life and there wasn't a bill looming at the end of it. I suddenly realised - this is politics. And it mattered. Particularly in my hour of need.'

And so Ellie decided to get involved, working as an assistant on Ed Balls' leadership campaign and becoming an activist. She is keen to dispel the idea that all politicians are untrustworthy.

'I have been in awe of many of the people I have met. Harriet Harman and Yvette Cooper have done huge amounts, not only for women in the Labour Party, but for women in general. When Harriet came into parliament, she was one of the first women, so she's had to lead the way. We now have a House of Commons that is [just under] 40% female. It should be half and half, but it is a very long journey to have travelled in a short space of time.'

Ellie is determined that our generation - women in particular - doesn't keep leaving it to someone else. 'If you're frustrated that you can't get a GP appointment before work, stuck renting because house prices are out of your league or cross because you're earning less than a male colleague for doing the same job, you care about politics.'

When she's not at work, you'll find Ellie watching *Keeping Up With The Kardashians* - or any reality TV for that matter. 'I never miss an episode. I even descend to the depths of *Dance Moms* if it's been a really long day.'



FITNESS

EDITOR

MUIREANN CAREY-CAMPBELL, 34

Blogger and public speaker Muireann Carey-Campbell - better known as Bangs - was a certified couch potato until five years ago. 'In a desperate attempt to get fit, I started boxing, which led to running; before I knew it, I'd completed a half marathon.'

A fitness convert, she started Team Bangs on the Run - a virtual running group (they're only in touch electronically) - and began training other women for half marathons. Last year, she qualified as a spin instructor and now teaches six times a week at Boom Cycle in London. 'I'm completely passionate about motivating people, both on and off the bike.'

Lover Like You by Gorgon City featuring Katy B is her favourite spin track, and she believes in an uncomplicated approach to fitness. 'If you enjoy it and it gets you moving, just go do it, be it a ballet class, roller skating, running, trampolining - whatever makes you happy.'

Despite appearances and her energetic approach to life, Bangs is actually a natural introvert. 'I really value my alone time,' she says. 'My absolute favourite thing to do is go to the cinema by myself. No one chatting to me through the movie and all the popcorn for me - perfect!' bangsandabun.com

[@BANGSANDABUN](https://twitter.com/BANGSANDABUN)

WATCH IT

See exclusive footage from the shoot at elleuk.com/tags/ellevoices

Photography: James A Grant. Laura (left) wears: Silk-crêpe dress Chloé. Alice wears: Viscose top, Marni at Browns, and cotton skirt, Stella McCartney at Harvey Nichols. Ellie wears: Polyester-mix shirt, Oasis, and leather skirt, Christopher Kane. Muireann wears: Cotton top, Marni at Browns. Michelle wears: Wool top, and wool skirt, both Sportmax.



[@WHOISBOBBPARRIS](https://twitter.com/WHOISBOBBPARRIS)

SOUNDS

EDITOR

MICHELLE BOBB-PARRIS, 36

Canadian Michelle is a City lawyer-turned-photographer-turned-music writer based in London. Her dad sung in an a cappella quartet and toured the Caribbean and US with a calypso steel-drum band, while her mum grew up in vibrant 1960s New York City, which meant two things were certain: that Michelle's life would involve lots of travel, and would inevitably circle back to music.

'Finding familiarity in newness is second nature when you've spent most of your adult life as an expat,' she says. 'Looking back on the disparate collection of memories from the countries I've lived in or visited, music has been the constant connector to my favourite people, places, and things.' It's also why she's launching a new music site, the-rhapsody.com, to share others' stories around music and show we have more in common than we realise.

Of course, Michelle is a quintessential music nerd, complete with childhood classical piano and music theory training. She also did a course in the post-Civil War history of African-American music for fun while at university, and her dad's Altec speakers take pride of place in her Barbican flat, reverberating with anything from pre-EDM synth Beatles covers to glam rock and gospel.

Of her own music tastes, Michelle says, 'Don't try to pin me down to a genre or tribe. Major Lazer and Tiësto are guaranteed to get me on the dance floor, while every playlist has to include some Miguel, Vaults, Warpaint and Lianne La Havas. And if you don't worship queen Stevie Nicks, we probably can't be friends.'

whoisbobbparris.com



[@SCARLYCURTIS](#)

NEW YORK

EDITOR

SCARLETT CURTIS, 20

At 19 years old, Scarlett Curtis decided it was officially time to stop watching *Sex And The City*, *Girls* and *Friends* on repeat and actually move from London to New York. 'I packed my bags and moved to the city of my dreams to study English Literature at NYU.' It also turned out to be the city of 'rats, snow and far too much pizza', but after surviving her first year, she feels determined to make it work.

She loves living in the West Village because everything is open all night - you can buy make-up at 4am if you want to. But despite all the amazing food on offer, she misses Marks & Spencer, custard creams and English tea (which she says the Americans can't get quite right) more than she ever thought she would.

Having struggled with anxiety and depression, Scarlett can relate to many of the issues faced by young women today, but she's also figuring out how good life can be. 'I am very aware of the beautiful side of online communities as well as the dangerous side. Over the past few years I've attempted to use social media for good by talking openly about my depression online.'

Lena Dunham is a fan of the blog, which gets up to 15,000 hits a week. In fact, the best thing Scarlett has done since arriving in New York is make boob-shaped cake pops that she gave to Dunham on the set of *Girls* (they'd become friends after meeting in a restaurant), which Dunham duly Instagrammed, writing, 'Yes those are boob cake pops, made by the genius @scarlycurtis. Hope these don't #breaktheinternet.'

[scarlettcurtis.com](#)



[@SANDSDAISY](#)

FEMINISM

EDITOR

DAISY SANDS, 35

'My feminist awakening happened when I was six years old, watching a *James Bond* film,' says social campaigner Daisy Sands. 'I asked my friend why the woman on screen was (seductively) blow-drying her hair, when it was bone dry. She tutted and said, 'Huh, exactly!' From then on, I understood that women are expected to perform a narrow feminine role on camera and in real life.'

Since that early epiphany, Daisy has learned a lot about the inequalities women continue to face - such as the gender pay gap and the prevalence of sexual violence, pregnancy discrimination and the lack of women in positions of power. 'I've been lucky to channel my passion for these issues through my work, from small grass-roots organisations right up to roles in central government. I have spoken at the UN in New York, written reports, challenged the government in court, organised fancy-dress marches on Whitehall, met with ministers and party leaders and been grilled on live national TV.'

Daisy would love to meet Detective Chief Inspector Jane Tennison from *Prime Suspect* in real life. 'At the time, she was the most kick-ass woman I had seen on screen, but also a deeply complex character.' And her idea of a great night out involves 'hanging with friends and eating cheese, followed by beers, a gig and dancing.'

For Daisy, the greatest thrill of all comes from working alongside talented women (and some men) who share her belief in the power of feminism to change the world. That, and free tickets to see Beyoncé.



[@GRACECAMPBELL](#)

VIDEO

EDITOR

GRACE CAMPBELL, 21

Grace Campbell is a writer and filmmaker studying film practice at the London College of Communication. As a child, she was obsessed with entertaining people and spent four years at drama school. 'When I was 10, I auditioned for the part of Veruca Salt in Tim Burton's *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory*. I convinced myself I didn't get the part because I had a gap tooth.'

The daughter of former Labour spin doctor Alastair Campbell, Grace's aim is to shine a light, through film, on the things affecting young people today, without being too heavy-handed – she wants her audience to laugh too. 'Humour is one of the best means of communicating your message,' she says.

Earlier this year, Grace finished two short films about online porn. One was a non-fiction film for *The Guardian* that featured Anne Robinson watching porn for the first time (the film went viral and was picked up by *The Huffington Post*, *The Independent* and the *Daily Mail*); the second was a short fictional film called *Oedipussy*, which examines the tricks used in porn post-production to mimic the sounds of sex (mayonnaise and chicken legs feature).

Other than porn, Grace's main rants tend to be about politics, sexism and mental health. She is currently working on a project called Disconnect, an initiative being trialled in schools to encourage young people to disconnect from social media to explore how dependent they really are. 'I think my generation is going to be tested when they enter adulthood because technology has totally shifted our train of thought and our brains haven't evolved.'



LITERARY

EDITOR

ANNA JAMES, 28

'I used to have a mini library of books at the bottom of my bed to keep them close,' says Anna James, of the origins of her lifelong love of all things literary. After graduating with a history degree from the University of Birmingham, she worked as a school librarian for nearly five years where she developed a knack for matching people with the perfect book. Around that time, she fell into wedding-dress modelling, a far cry from life as a librarian. While working at the school, Anna started her blog, *A Case For Books*, which gradually grew and led her into literary journalism.

Anna lives in North London and works for publishing magazine *The Bookseller* and as a literary event chair, which has allowed her to meet a number of her icons, such as Judy Blume and Kazuo Ishiguro; it's an experience, she says, that has shaped who she is. Being a literary whizz demands some serious groundwork. 'I read around 200 books a year covering any genre, except very grisly crime and horror.' She counts *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger and *The Luminaries* by Eleanor Catton as favourites.

Reading is how Anna ended up identifying so strongly as a feminist, both through encountering women's lives that were so different from her own, and also through reading Caitlin Moran's *How To Be A Woman*. She is currently toying with getting a tattoo of her favourite literary quote: 'The world was hers for the reading,' from Betty Smith's *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn*. ●

acaseforbooks.com

[@ACASEFORBOOKS](#)

THE INSIDE TRACK

*Long an under-the-radar favourite with fashion insiders, the secret's finally out as cult label **Lindex** takes its place at the top of this season's most-wanted list*



Join us at our next ELLE Insider shopping event for music, bubbly and exclusive access to Lindex's a/w 2015 collection. Register at elleuk.com/insider. Not yet a subscriber? Sign up today at elleuk.com/subscribe



Chic Scandi fashion brand Lindex has been getting a lot of buzz recently. The fashion editors' worst-kept secret has become a go-to for cool workwear and dreamy weekend dresses and shirts. As an ELLE Insider, you're invited to shop with us at Lindex's brand-new store in Westfield London - the night before the store officially opens. Join us from 6.30-8.30pm on Thursday 5 November for this exclusive event. The ELLE fashion team will lead a trend talk, highlighting some of our favourite pieces from the Lindex autumn/winter 2015 collection. There will be 30% off on purchases all night, music by DJ Becca Dudley, nibbles and bubbly for you to enjoy - and an exclusive ELLE goodie bag to take home. See you there!

FIND OUT MORE! Check out your new favourite label at lindex.com



SEE IT

Follow Emma on
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#GIRLINTERRUPTER

Emma Forrest explores how airport style went from Elizabeth Taylor glamour to sweatpants and back again

Leaving Heathrow in Prada booties, black tights and a velvet-embellished Dolce & Gabbana minidress, Amal Clooney, for all her achievements as a human rights lawyer, also dresses beautifully for air travel. Whatever it says about the times we live in, it's the latter skill that makes her a hero in the eyes of many.

After all, there is a reason – from *The Out Of Towners* to *Planes, Trains & Automobiles* – that cinema has a subgenre of hassle-at-the-airport movies. One thinks of the headrests that never get washed, or the misery of Ryanair's sardine-tin cabins, or the little girl on jetBlue who needed to use the toilet when her plane was delayed on the runway, was forbidden by the stewardess, then soiled herself and was made to sit in her urine-soaked seat for the flight.

As Judy Blume's new novel *In The Unlikely Event* attests, 'In the 1950s, air travel was new and exciting, and everybody dreamed of going somewhere!' And they dressed accordingly. American Airlines has a cache of black and white photographs with Cary Grant, Ava Gardner and Grace Kelly done up to the nines as they exit their plane, smiling back at a pilot who matches them for glamour.

In 1963 MGM released *The V.I.P.s*, in which the passengers – Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Italian model-slash-actress Elsa Martinelli and French playboy Louis Jourdan – fall in and out of love while fogged in at Heathrow. The only thing more on display than the cleavage is the diamonds.

But by the 1990s, airline travel had become the opposite of aspirational, and people started dressing accordingly. First came the ripped jeans, then the Uggs, then the flannel pyjama bottoms (for daytime flights!), as if match-

ing the exterior to the way airlines seem hell-bent on making us feel about ourselves: worthless.

But, lately, there's been a sea change. Though the conditions have not improved, the outfits have. Any tabloid reader knows Jennifer Aniston flies in dark sunglasses and a large pashmina, and that they can, too. Even if, rather than flying first class to Maui, they're travelling coach to Luton.

Pictures of celebrities in transit now blanket not just tabloids, but the news pages of *The Guardian*. The easiest place to get a shot of a movie star is Los Angeles and the nexus is LAX, where booking agents sell passenger information to the paparazzi. Hence this new urge to look Grace-Kelly-great getting off a 14-hour flight.

I've flown coach, premium economy, and business (never first, though I have been on a private plane). We all want to be better than the class we're flying (and who more so than the class-obsessed Brits?). To this end, most of us now plan for the shortest flight as if choosing what to wear to the Oscars. What's your nicest bra that doesn't dig into your ribs? What's your best-looking but most supportive shoe for long lines through customs? What's your biggest handbag that goes with your softest scarf?

Maayan Zilberman, former designer of lingerie line The Lake and Stars, now designer of haute couture Sweet Saba candy, is by far my most glamorous friend. She taught me how to pack for a holiday and has strong views on how to fly in style. She wears full make-up, even for an overnight flight and, rather than loose clothes, compression thigh-highs under her skirt, to help improve circulation in the air. She recalls seeing Parisian fashion icon Carine Roitfeld on an overnight flight: 'She got on in stilettos and Tom Ford velvet. When the lights went out, she switched to yoga clothes. By the time we landed, she was back in her heels and minidress.'

The moral of the story? You mustn't forget your comfort level. Just make sure that nobody ever sees it.

'There's a new urge to look Grace-Kelly-great after getting off a 14-hour flight'



Russell & Bromley

LONDON



The Runway half boot
The Parisienne oversized tote
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A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME – WITH RIMOWA

The 1920s marked the beginning of modern air travel and the golden age of Hollywood. In 1919, Hugo Junkers presented the world's first all-metal commercial aircraft. It was made using the aircraft aluminum alloy discovered by Alfred Wilm in 1906. In 1950, RIMOWA presented its suitcase with the unmistakable grooved design made of the same material – at the time, it was the lightest suitcase in the world. RIMOWA was a real pioneer in the sector, starting the trend for lightweight luggage back then.



www.rimowa.com



FASHION

ELLE

***Nº1** Let's Go Outside › Right now, it's all about the statement coat. Who cares about the cold when your outerwear is this cool **Nº2** Retro Super Future › The new tweed is as far away from country living as it gets **Nº3** Dreaming Of Stevie › Make like Ms Nicks in layers of floaty chiffon with a tough edge **Nº4** Style For Less › The high street is looking good this season. These are the pieces we love – add to basket, now*



LET'S GO OUTSIDE

YOUR COAT NEEDS TO
MAKE A STATEMENT.
MIX BOLD SHAPES
WITH STRONG COLOURS
AND ADD A TOUGH,
PUNK-INSPIRED BOOT.
NOW YOU'RE READY TO
TAKE ON ANYTHING

Photography **Ben Morris** Fashion **Joanne Blades** Model **Kel Markey**



Cashmere waistcoat, £6,310, and cashmere coat, £4,570, both Hermès. Silk-crêpe top, £854, matching trousers, price on request, and leather and metal belt, price on request, all Anthony Vaccarello. Leather boots, price on request, Alexander Wang. Embellished felt hat, £820, Lanvin. Coated gold ring (index finger), £1,110, and coated gold ring (middle finger), £1,023, both Repossi



This page: Wool and suede coat, £6,250, Donna Karan New York. Wool coat (worn underneath), £2,535, Moncler. Cotton shirt (just seen), £240, and polyester skirt, £505, both Marc by Marc Jacobs. Velvet and leather boots, price on request, Alexander Wang. Black-coated gold ear cuff (worn throughout), £1,338, Repossi **Opposite:** Embellished wool coat, £4,885, cotton-gabardine trousers, £2,110, and embellished felt hat, as before, all Lanvin. Leather boots, £755, Isabel Marant. Metal and pearl earrings, £455, Balenciaga. Leather gloves, £100, LaCrasia







This page: Wool coat, £3,200, wool-jaquard jumpsuit, £2,150, and vinyl boots, £1,110, all Dior. Coated gold ring (ring finger), £2,360, coated gold and diamond ring (little finger), £1,180, and other rings, as before, all Repossi **Opposite:** Wool coat (with brooch), £2,975, velvet top (just seen), £195, and cotton trousers, £1,745, all Giorgio Armani. Leather gloves (worn throughout), £250, LaCrasia





Wool cape, £2,625, Michael Kors. Wool jumper, £435, wool shorts, £310, and leather boots, as before, all Isabel Marant. Gold earrings, £395, and large gold-plated cuff (both worn throughout), £280, both Alexis Bittar. Small brass cuff, £980, Jennifer Fisher. Wool-mix tights, £35, Wolford



This page: Wool coat, £2,335, MaxMara. Wool coat (worn underneath), £1,160, Paul Smith. Silk-mix dress, £3,750, Christopher Kane. Leather and wool boots, £695, Giuseppe Zanotti. Gold necklace, price on request, and black cable-wrapped bronze cuff (model's right arm), £510, both worn throughout, both Alexis Bittar. Coated gold rings, as before

Opposite: Wool coat (including silver coat pin), £3,750, and metal and pearl earrings, as before, both Balenciaga

Ben Morris







Wool and silk coat, £2,860,
and wool and silk dress,
£2,500, both Fendi



Ben Morris



This page: Wool coat, £2,790, and wool dress (just seen), £3,190, both Marc Jacobs. Ostrich-feather hat, £240, Stephen Jones. Leather and wool boots, black cable-wrapped bronze cuff, and wool-mix tights, all as before

Opposite: Wool-mix coat, price on request, Boss. Wool dress, £1,430, Peter Pilotto. For shopping details, see Address Book.

Hair: Kenna at Art Department. Make-up: Stevie Huynh at D+V Management. Manicure: Roseann Singleton at Art Department. Model: Kel Markey at Supreme. Production by: Miranda Neri at Jed Root NY



RETRO / SUPER / FUTURE

The new tweed is as far away from country living as it gets. Think technicolour and pop-princess silhouettes. Team with cat-eye glasses and kitten heels, or Sixties go-go boots for retro-future appeal

Photography Aitken Jolly Fashion Anne-Marie Curtis Model Grace Anderson



This page: Wool coat, £635, Theory. Silk and wool-mix dress, price on request, Dolce & Gabbana. Patent-leather shoes, £610, Miu Miu. Perspex brooch, £65, Tatty Divine. Acrylic and brass bag, £3,348, Mary Katrantzou. Cotton-mix socks (worn throughout), £10 for set of three, Asos **Opposite:** Wool-tweed dress, £1,250, Christian Dior. Wool-mix top (worn underneath), £209, Sandro. Acetate sunglasses, £180, Jonathan Saunders. Leather and wool-tweed bag, £2,500, Christian Dior



This page: Wool-tweed jacket, £3,050, silk-jacquard skirt, £1,415, and leather bag, £1,825, all Balenciaga. Leather boots, £925, Prada. Acetate sunglasses, £200, Jonathan Saunders
Opposite: Ciré-wool coat, £2,295, wool jumper, £460, and wool-tweed skirt, £1,370, all Miu Miu. Resin earrings, £240, Marni





This page: Wool-tweed jacket, £12,829, and wool-tweed skirt, £973, both Chanel. Lurex top, £155, Sandro. Leather boots, as before, Acrylic and brass bag, £4,375, Mary Katrantzou

Opposite: Wool coat, £515, Gerard Darel. Wool top, £495, Jonathan Saunders. Wool skirt, £150, Tara Jarmon. Patent-leather shoes, as before. Acetate sunglasses, £170, Yazbukey for Linda Farrow

Hackney Homes
Fellows Court 1-62
38-46 Ground Floor Access at Rear ↑







This page: Wool coat, £3,200, Bottega Veneta. Wool top, £395, Jonathan Saunders. Wool skirt, £390, Just Cavalli. Resin earrings, £240, Marni. Leather bag, £1,575, Prada
Opposite: Wool-tweed jacket, £570, Carven. Wool jumper, £620, Tod's. Resin earrings, £240, Marni

This page: Mohair jacket, £2,342, leather blouse, £1,591, mohair skirt, £1,679, and embellished metal belt, £1,460, all Louis Vuitton **Opposite:** Silk-jersey sleeveless jacket, £1,530, and matching skirt, £1,095, cashmere top, £570, silk shirt, £430, Plexiglas brooch, £505, leather gloves, £925, leather bag, £1,575, and leather shoes, £550, all Prada. For shopping details, see Address Book. Hair: Soichi at Saint Luke using Kiehl's. Make-up: Kirstin Piggott at Julian Watson Agency for Rimmel London. Manicure: Emma Welsh at August Management using Colville Mews by Nails Inc. Model: Grace Anderson at Elite London. With thanks to: Provision Studios.





Dreaming of Stevie

*The Seventies have been given a soft-focus reboot.
Pair floaty chiffons and silks with tough brocade and boots.
Make 'What would Stevie Nicks do?' your mantra*

Photography Marcin Tyszka Fashion Michelle Duguid Model Bambi Northwood-Blyth



Wool jacket, £6,365,
and silk dress, £4,375,
both Dsquared2. Gold
and brown diamond
earrings (worn
throughout), £550,
Annoushka. Silver and
amethyst ring (model's
left hand, worn
throughout), £160, The
Great Frog. Gold, silver,
turquoise and diamond
ring (model's right hand),
£3,310, Armenta at
Talisman Gallery





This page: Shearling coat, price on request, Hillier Bartley. Silk blouse, £300, cotton trousers, £330, and suede and leather boots, £1,340, all Isabel Marant

Opposite: Silk dress, £3,520, Etro. Gold and diamond earrings, £1,910, Armenta at Talisman Gallery



This page: Shearling coat, price on request, Marco de Vincenzo. Lamé-silk blouse, £2,140, and matching trousers, £1,365, both Lanvin. Leather boots, £1,735, Etro. Velvet scarf, stylist's own. Rose-gold ring, £6,950, Cartier

Opposite: Silk and shearling jacket, £1,225, Dries Van Noten. Silk top, £550, Mulberry. Silk scarf, £175, Rockins







Wool-twill waistcoat, £610, silk dress, £3,865, and silk-jersey scarf, £125, all Chloé. Leather and metal boots, £1,245, Manolo Blahnik. Gold and diamond earrings, £1,200, Annoushka. Gold and black mother of pearl ring (model's left hand), £2,420, Armenta at Talisman Gallery. Silver and turquoise ring (model's right hand), £90, Pamela Love





This page: Suede cape, £6,000, Burberry. Wool jumper, £435, and wool-mix trousers, £1,140, both Sonia Rykiel. Silk scarf, £175, Saint Laurent by Hedi Slimane. Gold, silver, turquoise and diamond ring, as before
Opposite: Silk dress, £2,870, Gucci



This page: Mohair waistcoat, £1,950, and silk-chiffon dress, £1,635, both Alberta Ferretti
Opposite: Silk dress, £5,135, Valentino. Suede boots, £1,445, Gianvito Rossi. Rose-gold ring, as before. For shopping details, see Address Book.
Hair: Halley Brisker at Jed Root using Cloud Nine. Make-up: Andrew Gallimore at CLM Hair & Make Up using Nars. Manicure: Adam Snee at Streeters using Rimmel London. Model: Bambi Northwood-Blyth at IMG. With thanks to: Location HQ and Bespokes Car Hire (bespokes.co.uk)



THE HIGH STREET EDIT

THIS IS TRULY *effortless*
FASHION. THE PIECES ARE
LAID-BACK AND GROWN-UP,
AND EVERYTHING YOUR
autumn/winter
WARDROBE NEEDS

Photography **Daniel Nadel**
Fashion **Michelle Duguid**
Models **Aga** and **Isabel**

Wool jumper, £325, Aries.
Vinyl trousers, £49.99,
H&M Studio. Sterling
silver earrings (just seen,
worn throughout), £55,
Thomas Sabo. Metal ring
(worn throughout), £8.50,
Dorothy Perkins



Isabel (left) wears:
Cotton-mix dress, £65,
River Island. Wool jumper,
£125, Jaeger. Leather
boots, £115, Dune.
Aga (right) wears:
Ponyskin coat, £595,
Topshop. Silk-crêpe shirt,
£189, Cacharel. Denim
jeans, £265, Rag & Bone.
Patent-leather shoes,
£365, Richard
Braço. Silver-plated
necklace (just seen,
worn throughout), £140,
Folli Follie

THE HIGH STREET EDIT



Aga (left) wears: Wool coat, £707, T by Alexander Wang. Wool jumper, £129, and wool trousers, £350, both Jigsaw. Faux-fur-lined leather sandals, £95, Birkenstock. Isabel (right) wears: Wool-mix coat, £159, Marks & Spencer. Silk-crêpe shirt, as before. Leather shoes, £75, Dune

Grey wool-mix coat,
£64.99, New Look.
Grey wool jacket, £69.95,
Gap. Grey cotton top,
£20, Levi's. Black leather
trousers, £155, Isabel
Marant Étoile. White
leather trainers,
£159, Senso



THE HIGH STREET EDIT




Wool-blend coat,
£350, Jigsaw.
Cashmere jumper,
£135, Cos. Faux-leather
skirt, £49.99, Mango.
Gold-plated ring, £84,
Gemporia

Aga (left) wears: Shearling coat, £1,170, Gerard Darel. Cotton jumper, £39.99, H&M. Silk trousers, £325, Rag & Bone. Leather trainers, as before.

Isabel (right) wears: Wool coat, £250, Banana Republic. Wool jumper, £70, Levi's. Polyester trousers, £189, Cacharel. Leather trainers, £79, Jigsaw. Gold-plated rings, as before





Isabel (left) wears: Wool dress, £239, Sandro.
Aga (right) wears: Polyester jacket, £68, and polyester blouse, £42, both Warehouse. Velvet trousers, £50, Topshop

THE HIGH STREET EDIT

Grey and taupe faux-fur jacket, £220, grey wool blazer, £180, and matching trousers, £130, all Whistles. White and black leather trainers, £149, Senso. For shopping details, see Address Book. Hair: Kota Suizu at Caren using Oribe. Make-up: Naoko Scintu at Saint Luke using Nars Cosmetics. Manicurist: Emma Welsh at Lovely Management using Colville Mews by Nails Inc. Models: Aga at Models 1 and Isabel at Supa Model Management. With thanks to: Motel Studios



THE COAT



One coat isn't enough - these shapes are classics that are designed to last

Shearling coat, £350, Comptoir des Cottonniers. Cotton top, £20, and denim jeans, £80, both Levi's

1. Sheepskin coat, £796, Massimo Dutti. Merino-wool top, £85, Gant. 2. Wool-mix coat, £440, Claudie Pierlot. Cotton top, £59, Jigsaw. 3. Faux-fur coat, £385, Vanessa Bruno Athé. 4. Cotton jacket, £230, Masscob at Aimé. 5. Cotton-mix jacket, £85, Autograph at Marks & Spencer. Cotton top, £105, Isabel Marant Étoile. Silk scarf, £20, Aspinall of London



SHOP THE HIGH STREET EDIT



The jumpsuit is the modern alternative to the dress - go for relaxed fits for day and luxe fabrics for evening

THE JUMPSUIT

6. Wool-mix jumpsuit, £170, Sessùn. 7. Cotton-mix jumpsuit, £51, Asos. 8. Velvet jumpsuit, £222, Vanessa Bruno

Right, clockwise from left:
Sterling-silver and rose gold-plated,
£305, Thomas Sabo. Leather and
rose gold-plated, £450, Links
of London. Stainless steel, £395,
Swarovski. Leather and rose
gold-plated, £255, Folli Follie



Above: Cotton-mix jumper, £34, Next.
Marabou-feather skirt, £55, Oasis.
Leather shoes, £155, Bass Weejuns

THE NAILS



9. Yves Saint Laurent La Laque
Couture in Beige Gallery, £19
10. Dior Vernis in Metropolis, £19
11. Nails Inc. NailKale in Victoria, £14

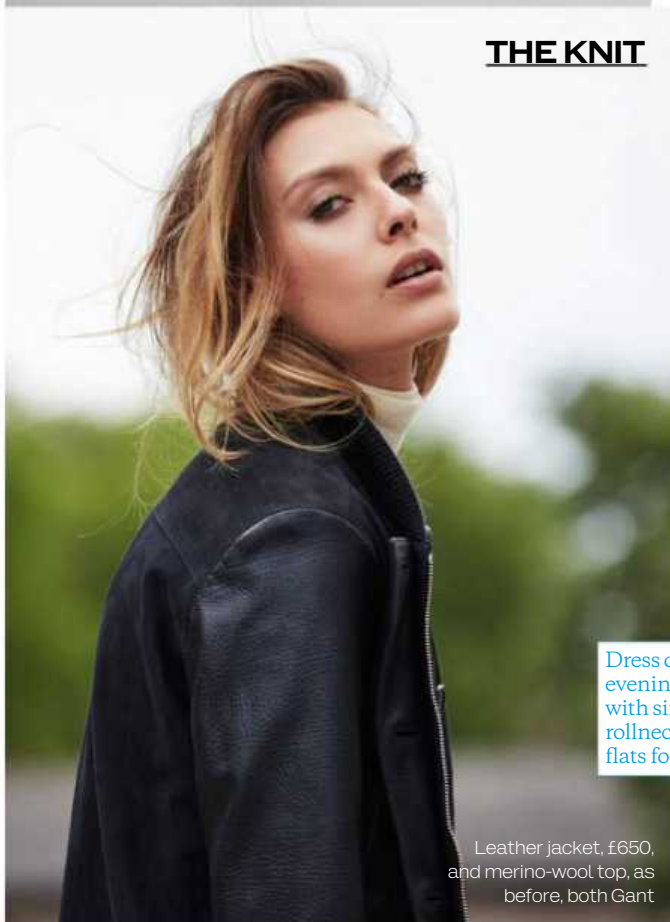


Now officially a
proper shoe, meet
your go-anywhere,
wear-with-anything
wardrobe essential

THE WATCH



THE KNIT



Leather jacket, £650,
and merino-wool top, as
before, both Gant



Above: Wool jumper, £199, Barbour
for Range Rover. Faux-leather
trousers, £40, River Island. Leather
shoes, £225, L.K.Bennett



Dress down
evening pieces
with simple
rollnecks and
flats for day

Above: Faux-leather dress, £85,
Topshop. Cashmere top, £150,
Winser London. Patent-leather
shoes, £30, Office

THE TRAINER



12. Suede, £90, Lacoste. 13. Felt, £282, Claudie Pierlot. 14. Leather, £98, Jigsaw.
15. Suede, £75, Comptoir des Cotonniers



All as before.
Far left: All
as before

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#morewomen

THE *feminism* ISSUE

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*Taken on by
Calvin Klein at 21*

*Landed the biggest
job of her career while
five months pregnant*

*Employs an
85% female team*

Interview by **Lorraine Candy**

MEET

CLARE WAIGHT KELLER...

I think you'll like her. Chloé's Creative Director is a game-changing, quietly kick-ass boss who is helping reshape the way the fashion industry champions female leaders today. Super-successful and surprisingly down-to-earth, Clare is passionate about making it easier for talented women to get to the top by forging a more relaxed way of working that delivers results and nurtures women's emotional needs. Sounds too good to be true? Trust me, it's not.

I first met Clare four years ago, when she was heavily pregnant with her third child. We were discussing her impending move from Pringle of Scotland to powerhouse French brand Chloé (and imminent family relocation to Paris). As we chatted, I couldn't help questioning

how she was going to take on a new job, new baby and new home abroad with her architect husband Philip and nine-year-old twins all at the same time. 'You are either very brave or very mad,' I suggested.

Could she hit the ground running post-birth and deliver what Chloé needed in the short time before her first catwalk collection? Would she manage the so-called 'struggle to juggle' and be both a successful boss and happy mum?

These are predictable questions, ones I wouldn't have asked a man. Questions I fear reflect society's default assumption of women at the top: our ability is often underestimated and our focus queried. We still work in a world where it is unusual to see a woman in charge.

Indeed, women make up 75% of the fashion industry today, yet less than 25% of senior positions are held by women. Women are primary consumers of fashion, but the decisions around what they consume are made mostly by men. According to Chloé CEO Geoffroy de la Bourdonnaye, the company has seen 'unprecedented growth' under Clare, and he has praised her for being an efficient manager and creative brand builder. She has also won critical acclaim for her delicate and sensitive refresh of the brand which has revitalised its collections.

With this in mind, this workplace imbalance doesn't make business sense. I can only conclude it's because we are either routinely ruled out for the big roles or we rule ourselves out, due to a lack of confidence or an unwillingness to work in the way a business run by men demands.

But times are changing because of women like Clare Waight Keller. At Chloé, she says around 85% of the workforce are female. And she has gone some way to prove that the top job is within reach if you are given the chance to patiently make it work your way. When ▶



she was interviewed for the Chloé role in 2011, after stints at Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, Gucci and Pringle of Scotland, she felt obliged to tell Richemont's [which owns Chloé] then-CEO Marty Wikstrom that she was five months pregnant (it wasn't physically obvious).

'I had thought I wouldn't even be on the list because of my situation,' she recalls, 'so I told her right at the beginning. And she said: "Clare, I am going to ask you just one question: 'Do you think you can do the job?'" And I said, "Yes, I can." To which she replied, "Well then, there should be absolutely no barrier to you doing it because I was given one of the biggest opportunities of my career when I was pregnant." So she saw the potential and gave me the role that was a huge breakthrough in my career.'

The support of one senior woman for another in this way has a ripple effect.

For Clare, it instilled a new attitude that is being passed down and spread further. As Madeleine Albright once said: 'There is a special place in hell for women who don't help other women.'

Now Clare and I are sitting down together again. Her baby son, Harrison, is three. She is on a whistle-stop visit to London and in a buoyant mood after presenting, to my mind, one of her best Chloé collections to date.

If you were looking for the definition of a thoroughly modern woman, Clare is about as close as it gets. Her sense of easy, effortless style sums up the simpler way women want to dress today. And her relaxed open-door policy at work has helped define a less intense way of working in such a fast-paced, profit-focused industry. If you follow her on Instagram, you get a strong sense of family, travel

STYLE ADVICE FROM THE WORLD OF CHLOÉ

She's created one of fashion's most laid-back, coolest looks with her uber-feminine collections, but which are the pieces Clare Waight Keller thinks make up a perfect wardrobe?

THE BLOUSE

Be it simple silk crêpe or fresh crisp cotton, encrusted with lace or ruffles

THE STRAIGHT FLARE

Seventies style with a high-waist and fitted hip

THE CAPE

The iconic bohemian coating

THE WEDGE

In natural leather mixed with wood or cork

and a distinctly stylish outlook, not a starry fashion lifestyle.

But I am also mindful that despite her laid-back persona, there is a steely core to Clare. She grew up in Birmingham, the eldest of three children. To fund her college studies, she worked night shifts at a cinema and day shifts at a picture framing shop. And then she beat several high-flying students to a job at Calvin Klein at the age of just 21, before she'd even graduated. She stepped on a plane to head out there in the early Nineties, when New York was buzzing with a raw creativity. You have to be a strong character to survive the pace and demands of the fashion world there.

'I just said goodbye to my parents, got on a plane, and went,' she recalls. 'Working there was amazing, Calvin courted controversy and he loved pushing the boundaries, especially with the advertising. I was observing and absorbing everything. It was like the Silicon Valley of its time, especially for young people - really open to our ideas and to new thinking. I thought I would be lonely but I wasn't, and I think if you can make it through the first year, everything works out.'

There is a focus to Clare that, as a fellow female boss and working mum, I admire, which is why I wanted to interview her for this, our 30th-birthday issue.

LC: So Clare, having worked under Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren and Tom Ford at Gucci, what does it take to be one of the most successful women in this male-dominated industry today?

CWK: It's interesting, because a lot of women work at lower levels in fashion but as you move up, numbers dissipate.



**Dree Hemingway
wears, this page:**

Cotton-corduroy jacket,
£1,190, silk-crêpe shorts,
£520, and jersey scarf,
£125, all Chloé. Hat,
stylist's own.


Opposite: Wool coat,
£3,070, Chloé

PROFILE

MODEL MOMENT

Dree Hemingway lives up to her superstar namesake (her mum is actress Mariel Hemingway and her great-grandfather is Ernest Hemingway) – the 27-year-old ballerina-turned-model-turned-actress-turned-fashion designer already has a head-spinning career trajectory under her belt. After dropping out of high school, Dree confounded expectations by popping up on the Givenchy haute couture a/w 2009 runway in Paris. She opened the Topshop s/s 2010 show, has walked for Chloé, Chanel and Giles, and modelled in campaigns for Gucci, Valentino and H&M. Now, she is the face of Chloé Eau De Parfum.

 @DREELOVECHILD



This page: Wool blazer, £2,190, matching trousers, £725, and leather boots, £760, all Chloé

Opposite: Wool waistcoat, £610, silk-crêpe dress, £3,865, and leather boots, as before, all Chloé

Cotton-corduroy waistcoat, £430, suede bag, £1,190, and gold and brass bracelets, £350 each, all Chloé

Kai Z Feng

and sometimes you're the only woman in the room. Your voice is lost because men are much more outspoken and to the point, and almost cut things off before you come into the conversation. Now I find the more direct I am with male colleagues, the more chance I have of getting it done. You assume as a woman that you have to justify things, but actually, if you say it in the right way, you can be as confident as a man. I do think women are becoming more vocal, even though that is challenging because a male point of view continues to dominate. At Chloé, 85% of the company is female, with more women in senior levels than most places, so I think a new acceptance of women in these bigger roles is happening. I have cultivated a culture of listening to what women need, because women are extremely efficient workers. I believe you have to let working mothers do what they need to do to get

the work done. They are good at balancing the hours to match the needs of both parts of their life.

LC: Often I say that women 'can't be what they can't see', and I think that's why it is important to mention what an amazing role model your mum has been for you in terms of work ethic.

CWK: She is incredibly supportive of my choices – no ifs, no buts. She worked at an insurance agency when I was young but she tried to make her job flexible to support us all. I was at Gucci when the twins (Amelia and Charlotte) were only six months old. It was really hard and there was so much travel – I leaned on my mum then to help me through that. She was there with them. It was probably the toughest period of my career. Sometimes she would stay with us for up to a month while we got the show done. I would feel guilty but when I work, I need to be very focused on it and, for me, having Mum

CLARE WAIGHT KELLER'S FIVE STYLE MANTRAS

1. Denim works with everything
2. Borrow from the boys
3. The right shoes create the right attitude
4. Never overstyle your hair
5. Jewellery is an expression of personality – choose it wisely

help with childcare was a no-brainer. They won't remember it, but I knew I could trust her.

LC: These are not decisions men often have to consider, are they?

CWK: No, but I really do think fathers are warming up to this, which is reassuring. At the time I thought, 'My god, what would I do if I didn't have my mum?' Probably only a woman has to make that choice about her career, yet on the other hand, women now expect to have this fuller life. But men are more part of the conversation: with my male boss, who has four children, we'll talk about what he did with his family at the weekends and how his kids are doing at school, and that used to be a no-go area for many men. I think that is quite a big shift, men and women having the confidence to bring domestic life into the conversation.

LC: What's the key to having confidence as a boss?

CWK: I like the quote that if you don't have confidence, just pretend you do! If you believe in yourself and you have done your research, you can say to yourself: 'I can do this.' It's about willpower, determination and focus.

LC: Often, I have moments when I think, 'I can't deal with all this, it's just not working.' Have you felt that self-doubt?

CWK: Yes, which is why I left Gucci, without a job to go to, when Tom [Ford] left. I felt I wasn't spending enough time being properly creative or managing my home life well. I just wanted a break and to try something different. And then the job at Pringle came along.

LC: You come across as a very calm, easy-going person. Is this how you are at work and home?

CWK: Yes, I keep everything low-key. And I am super-organised, which comes with having a lot on your plate. For me and my husband, it is about keeping the heart and soul of the family together, about having balance but knowing family takes priority. I think only then can you be truly happy doing both. ●



SEE IT Covet every look from the new Chloé collection at elleuk.com/catwalk



Chloé

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BEAUTY

GET IN LINE

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Plus, **how to wear colour***

Photography: Jason Lloyd-Evans.



SEE IT Learn how to recreate these looks with our how-to vlogs at elleuk.com/beauty

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THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO EYELINER

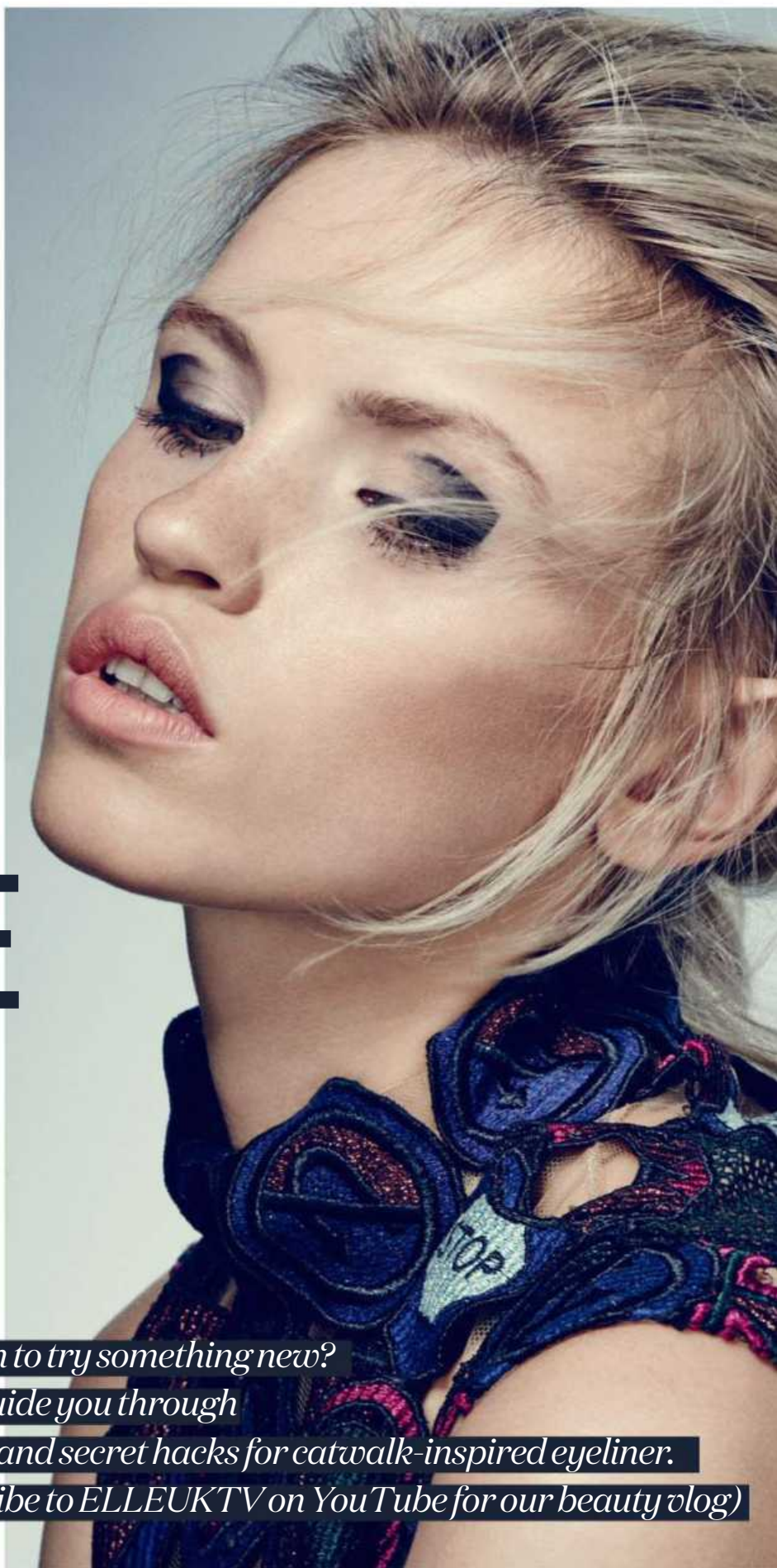
Are you bold enough to try something new?

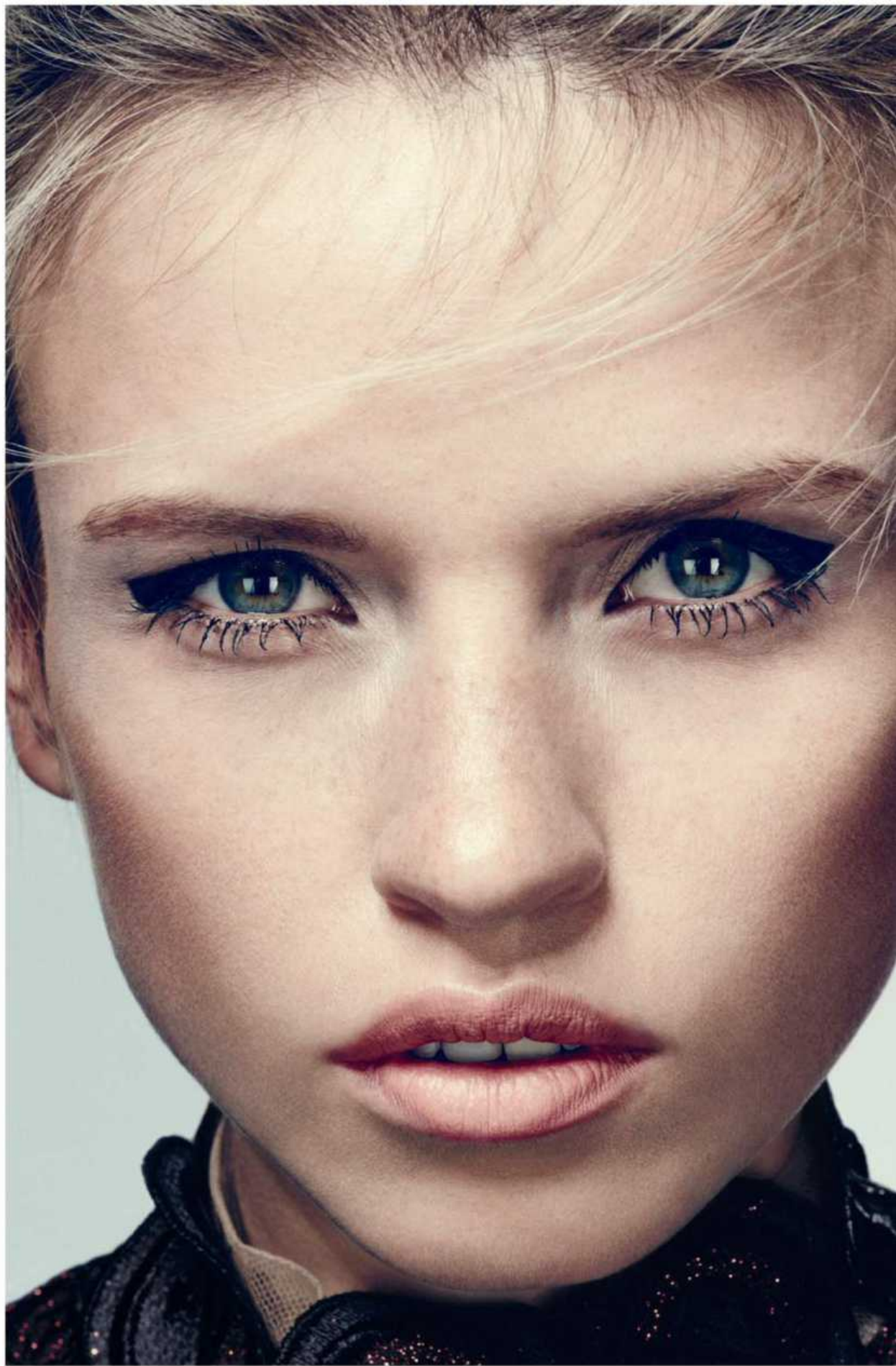
Yes, of course you are. Let us guide you through

with expert tips and secret hacks for catwalk-inspired eyeliner.

(Subscribe to ELLEUKTV on YouTube for our beauty vlog)

Photography **Jon Gorrigan** Words **Natalie Lukaitis**
Styling **Sophie Beresiner**







1960s MOD

Sixties make-up was all about enhancing your eyes. Take inspiration from Twiggy and Edie Sedgwick and embellish your eyeliner

Use: A kohl eyeliner such as Laura Mercier's Kajal D'Orient Eyeliner, £22. You want this look to be edgy and not too clean.

1 Draw along your top lash line from the inner corner to the outer, flicking upwards at the end.

2 Where your flick ends, follow the arch at the top of your socket as far as you dare.

3 Leave the rest of your eyelid bare.

Hack it: Not all of us are blessed with substantial lid space, so this look can easily get lost. Create the illusion of bigger lids by drawing just above your natural lid crease. That way, when you open your eyes, the effect will still be noticed.



DONNA KARAN



GIAMBATTISTA VALLI



PACO RABANNE

THIN LINE, THICK LASH

This is the most natural look you can achieve with eyeliner and a great way to make your lashes look full

Use: A pencil liner such as bareMinerals Round the Clock Waterproof Eyeliner, £15, makes it easier to stay close to the lash line.

1 Instead of completely closing your eye, just tilt your head back. This way, you won't have to pull the skin too tight, which can wrinkle your lids.

2 Pull your skin slightly taut at the outer corner of your eye to maintain a smooth surface while you draw.

3 Use the eyeliner to follow your lash line from the inner to the outer corner of your eye.

Hack it: If you don't have steady hands, draw short dashes along your lash line with the eyeliner, then join them one by one. ▶



Rimmel London Exaggerate Smoke-n-Shine, £3.99



Burberry Effortless Kohl Eyeliner, £18.50



Max Factor Kohl Pencil, £4.99



Laura Mercier Kajal D'Orient Eyeliner, £22



Diorshow Khôl Eyeliner, £19.50



Givenchy Magic Kajal Eye Pencil, £17



Guerlain Khôl Me Kajal Creamy Liner, £23.50

The kohls

Best for a smoky finish

Pro Builds intensity quickly because of its soft texture.

Con Can transfer to the top of your lid.

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is Aussome
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There's more to life than hair but it's a good place to start



SMOKY AND SMUDGED

It's #IWokeUpLikeThis in make-up terms. As in, you've the slightest smoky eye thanks to last night's mascara residue

Use: A smoky eye kohl such as Rimmel London Exaggerate Smoke-n-Shine Eyeliner, £3.99.

- 1 Simply draw along your lash line with the pencil end.
- 2 Lightly smudge the line with the blender end of your pencil, until you reach the desired effect.

Hack it: If you don't have a smoky eye pencil, create the worn-in effect by dabbing a cotton bud in moisturiser and smudging it along your lashline to encourage natural 'slide'. Dust with a setting powder to keep it in place.



Gucci Impact Long Wear Eye Pencil, £19



Urban Decay 24/7 Glide-On Eye Pencil, £15.50



Chanel Le Crayon Yeux Precision Eye Definer, £17



Dolce & Gabbana Intense Kohl Eye Pencil, £19



Lancôme Le Crayon Khôl, £16



UNDER EYELINER ONLY

This needs to make a statement – the end result shouldn't be too thin – take the gridiron-esque bottom liner at Rick Owens' a/w 2015 show as inspiration. That said, the level of heaviness you can pull off differs for everyone, so start with a thin line and build from there

Use: An eye pencil that allows for blending, such as Gucci Impact Longwear Eye Pencil, £19.

- 1 Starting from the inner corner of your eye, draw along your lower lash line to the outer corner.
- 2 Extend the eyeliner just past the inner and outer corners of your eyes to make them appear bigger.
- 3 Build the line by layering until you reach the desired effect.

Hack it: If you have sensitive eyes and can't cope with drawing on your lower lash line, use a dark powder and fine brush instead (we love Nars Angled Eyeliner Brush, £24). >



The pencils

Best for precise lines
Pro Easy to correct mistakes.

Con Can drag on your skin, resulting in an uneven finish.



JUST CAVALLI

RICK OWENS

VICTORIA BECKHAM

"There's more to Aussie than hair."



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kind of girl?
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of baby koalas.





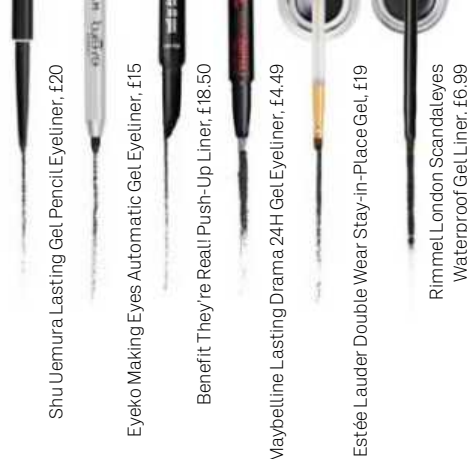
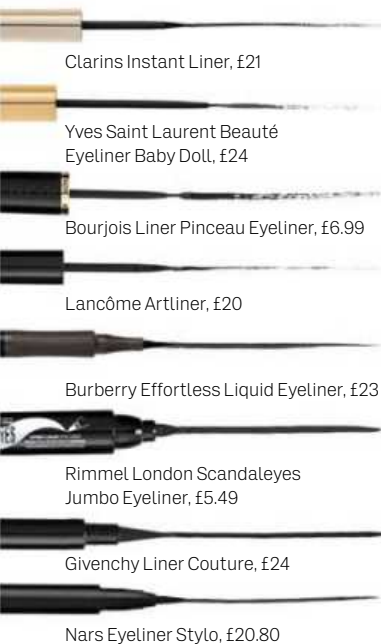
DOUBLE LINES

Update a regular feline flick with this graphic look

Use: A liquid eyeliner for ease, such as Estée Lauder's Little Black Liner, £22, and cheat the flicked ends with Ciaté's two-tipped Double Lines Eyeliner, £19.50.

- 1 Line your upper lash line from the inner to the outer corner.
- 2 From midway along your bottom lash line, draw to the outer corner of your eye. Don't join the two lines - keep the space open.
- 3 Continue the line out, angling up towards the tip of your brow.
- 4 Draw a parallel line from your top lash line, creating two flicks.

Hack it: If you're using a double-ended liner, scrap steps two and three and simply draw from the bottom lash line, keeping the points parallel. ●



WINGED EYELINER

The key to a good-looking feline flick is to gradually arch your liner midway along your lash line

Use: A gel liner with lasting power, such as Maybelline New York's Lasting Drama 24H Gel Eyeliner, £7.99

- 1 Starting at the outer corner of your eye, draw a straight line angling up towards the end of your brow about 1cm long.
- 2 Draw a line from the tip of that flick to the centre of your eyelid.
- 3 Fill in the space between the line you've just drawn and your lash line: this is your arch.
- 4 Finally, draw along your lash line from the inner corner of your eye to meet up with the line in the centre.

Hack it: To ensure your flicks are even, hold a piece of cardboard (a business card works best) up to the outer corner of your eye to meet the end of your brow. Using your liquid liner, draw along the edge of the card to create your flick. Wait till it's dry, then move the card away.



Liquids and gels

Best for

continuous lines
Pro Glides on smoothly and precisely.

Con Takes a longer time to dry.

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What's your type?

The biggest names in fashion are vying for your attention like never before. But *which fragrance* will you covet – and *which girl* are you anyway?

Words **Sophie Beresiner** Photography **Aaron Tilley**

BEAUTY
PERFUME PERSONALITY





The mercurial type

Type A isn't good at commitment. She thinks she's indecisive, but her mindful-meditation tutor says she's 'living in the moment'. She needs options, be it the leather or metal strap on her Apple Watch, or three versions of her favourite scent. In this moment her preference is the pears and jasmine of White Luminous Gold – like a long holiday – but she loves the warm wood with spicy orange of 24K Brilliant Gold, too; or maybe something musky and pretty, like Rose Radiant Gold? See? Always keep your options open.

You are: Type A The Michael Kors Gold Collection

White Luminous Gold, 24K Brilliant Gold, and Rose Radiant Gold, £39 each for 30ml



The high-fashion type

Type B has a mantra she repeats to herself whilst maintaining side plank in Pilates: 'fashion comes first.' She doesn't care how many Starbucks will be sacrificed; nothing tastes as good as expensive feels. She is building a wardrobe of classics that her daughter – and it will be a daughter – can inherit, but she'll still fit into. She wants a proper perfume that looks as covetable on the dressing table as it smells on the Tube: 'What's that? This elegantly musky, floral perfume I'm wearing? Oh, I can't remember, something my mother gave me, I think.'

You are: Type B Alaïa
£42 for 30ml



The ambitious type

Type C puts her designer bag on her desk before she turns on her computer. It is a status symbol far greater than any job title or social hierarchy. Anthony at the Blow Bar sees her more often than her housemate does, but it means her hair always looks fabulous in the queue for the latest 'no reservations' restaurant opening. 'Sultry' is Type C's default style, and her perfume must emphasise this. Rose is essential – it's the height of femininity – but sexy amber is paramount too. Sexy being the operative word.

You are: Type C Marc Jacobs Decadence £49 for 30ml





The **girly-girl** type

The Outnet is trying to lure Type E away from her to-do list again, but she's resisting. It's payday so sod it, she's going to commit to something full price and *this* season instead. Yes, it costs more, but the compliment-per-wear ratio will justify the expense. Must. Hide. Receipt. Where once her happy place was frothy skirts and bows, now is the time for studs and, well, OK, still bows. She wants 80% sophistication, 20% cute (50/50 on weekends). A floral scent that is slightly sweet, but so powdery and rich she can spritz the air in front of her and it will still leave a trail on her skin five hours later. That's the proper way to wear it, right?

You are: Type E Valentino Donna

£49 for 30ml



The **pioneering** type

No place is worth Type D's travel expense unless the postcode starts with an E8. Or N1 at a push. She was wearing cropped kick flares way before ELLE magazine ruined everything by declaring them a trend. Now her friends have got in on the action so she needs something new. A kooky signature scent will do the trick, preferably one that has three floral counterparts – a sparky, fruity floral (A), a creamier, musky variation (B), and a sweet option (C) – so she can layer them. That way, she can be wholly original, and no one will be able to replicate the playful, intriguing scent that is all her own.

You are: Type D Karen Walker A, B and C

£48.20 each for 50ml



The **rebellious** type

Type F likes her perfume to disguise the cigarettes and alcohol. Après work is the time to escape the city grind and replace it with a dimly lit dive bar; the kind where Suki Waterhouse 'slums' it and there is an extensive wine list. The word 'rebel' entered her vocabulary only last year, but has been adopted as a life philosophy and make-up agenda, and it is to this side that her perfume must appeal. Nothing too obvious; a no-mess musky wood that sort of clashes with the light and flowery notes will do nicely. It's a little bit dark, but overwhelmingly pretty, just like her.

You are: Type F YSL Black Opium

£39 for 30ml ●



READ IT For more of our favourite new fragrances, go to elleuk.com/beauty

TEAR
AND
WEAR



Nº25 RED-CARPET GLAMOUR

*Give normcore beauty a break, and follow
our step-by-step guide to 'proper' make-up*

The ingredients



Moisturiser Aesop
Camellia Nut Facial
Hydrating Cream, £33



Foundation
Giorgio Armani
Luminous Silk
Foundation, £36.50



Foundation brush
Shiseido Perfect
Foundation
Brush, £30



Concealer
Mac Conceal and
Correct Duo, £23



Eyeshadow
Lancôme
Ombre Hypnôse
Mono Eyeshadow
in Beige Nu, £19



Eye kohl
Laura Mercier Kohl
Eye Pencil in Black
Extreme, £16.50



Lash curlers
Shu Uemura
Eyelash Curler, £20



Mascara
Bobbi Brown
No Smudge
Mascara, £19.50



Lipstick Maybelline
Color Sensational
Lipstick in Hollywood
Red, £6.99



Setting spray
Clarins Fix
Make-Up, £22

The directions

- You need a well-hydrated base** for a flawless finish: give your face a boost with a nut oil-based moisturiser. Wait five minutes before applying foundation.
- Dab foundation** onto your forehead, cheekbones, chin and the bridge of your nose. (Use a large angled brush to buff skin in circular motions.)
- After concealing any imperfections**, accentuate eyes and 'lift' the face by drawing a triangle with concealer beneath your eyes using a tapered brush (the base of the triangle should sit under your lashes); blend gently.
- Lightly dot concealer** onto your lids to act as a base for your eyeshadow.
- Sweep a coat of nude shadow** over your lids. Dot kohl between your lashes

and then trace it along the upper lash line until the dots are joined together.

For lashes with staying power, heat your eyelash curlers under a hairdryer for three seconds before curling them; hold each press for five seconds.

Apply two coats of mascara, wiggling the brush at the roots and swiping to the tips to encourage the curl to hold.

Create a base for your lipstick by dabbing a touch of foundation on your lips. Apply two coats of colour to create a really strong shade.

To keep lipstick in place, blot, and then hold a one-ply tissue over your lips while you dust with translucent powder.

Keep your look in place by spritzing a fixing spray held 30cm from your face.

Substitutions and additions

○ = swap + = add

OILY SKIN

- + ADD** Becca Ever-Matte Priming Perfector, £28, before applying foundation
- SWAP** Standard moisturiser for Shiseido Pureness Moisturizing Gel-Cream, £31

DRY SKIN

- + ADD** Two drops of Kiehl's Superbly Restorative Argan Dry Oil, £38, to your usual moisturiser
- SWAP** Eyeshadow for Mac Pro Longwear Paint Pot, £15.50

SENSITIVE SKIN

- + ADD** Eau Thermale Avène Skin Recovery Cream, £16.50, as night cream the day before
- SWAP** Base for La Roche-Posay Toleriane Teint Corrective Fluid Foundation, £15.50



SEE IT Beauty Director Sophie Beresiner recreates the look in her tutorial vlog at elleuk.com/beauty

Ultimate Blends

HONEY TREASURES

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HONEY AND PROPOLIS

Our Honey Treasures
collection for damaged hair
that feels *strengthened*
and *restored*.



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garnier.co.uk/ultimateblends

Lips on point

Louboutin's *latest beauty launch*
will give your pout some power

EXCLUSIVE

Remember the thrill of Christian Louboutin's nail polish launch? Consider this big LoubouNews: **Part Two.** The 'reveal' was so shrouded in secrecy, we didn't know what we'd be writing about until right before press week. Once you've recovered from the shock - it's a lipstick! - take in the beautiful design. It looks like a piece of jewellery (Ancient Egypt's Queen Nefertiti was the inspiration) and the different packaging houses a choice of three finishes: sheer, matte and satin. The red Rouge Louboutin is the hero, but there are 37 other shades too. You can exhale now. *Louboutin Lip Colour, £65 each*

Words: Sophie Beresiner. Photography: Eva Roovers. For shopping details, see Address Book.

Ultimate Blends

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AND CAMELLIA OILS

Our Marvellous Ritual
transforms dry, dull hair
into hair that looks
nourished and
with a *lasting*
shine.



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1 Prep properly Don't start with squeaky clean hair: wait a few days post-shampoo or it'll flip and flop around too much during styling. I spray Redken Pure Force Hair Spray, £12.25, all over hair that's too clean and brush it through so you have the guts of the spray left over.

2 Keep a straight base You want to start with a flat base as you'll be creating a shape out of your hair, and it needs to sit close to the scalp. So if you have curly hair, smooth it over by blow-drying with a Mason Pearson Brush, £42.75, and a BaByliss ItaliaBRAVA hairdryer, £120.

3 Create bulk If you have fine hair, you can work a bulking product such as Redken Windblown, £15.80, through first, or add an extension around your ponytail later.

4 Be quick This look is a combination of the hair I did at Prada, Marc Jacobs and Hugo Boss: basically a dressed-up ponytail. It's a move away from the overriding 'no effort' hair trend of the last decade. This should look like you've spent ages, but it actually takes less time than creating a style that looks natural and carefree. You can do ladylike in a minute.

5 Think 1950s My inspiration came from icons such as Audrey Hepburn and Catherine Deneuve. They represent an era when women might have their hair down and easy during the day, but in the evening they



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new beauty looks, go
to elleuk.com/beauty



HOW TO DO...

THE LADYLIKE UPDO

*Hair super-stylist and backstage guru **Guido Palau** gives his tips for achieving this season's most wearable style*

would put it up and it would look so striking. **6 Clever placement** Make the style your own with your bespoke pony placement. At Prada [pictured above, we tied hair on the top of the head before pinning the end of the ponytail to the side, whereas at Hugo Boss it was at the nape of the neck]. Just fasten in place with a clear hairband, then form a looped bun or knot with bobby pins [ELLE recommends Boots Essentials Hair Grips, £1.49]. There are no rules.

7 Get accessorised This is key. Hair accessories finish the look as they give you 'containment': a way to gather and hold the hair, giving it shape

and definition. You can use a brooch with a bit of sparkle, a bejewelled clip or even just a simple barrette [ELLE loves this flower hair comb from H&M, £7.99].

8 Spray to set Set the look to prevent flyaways and also keep in line with the trend - it gives a sense of poise. [ELLE recommends KMS Hair Stay Maximum Hold Spray, £14.]

9 Short hair? This style works best on bob lengths and longer, but if you have short hair, get the feel of the style by using accessories to secure your fringe, or pull the top back to give a chic look.



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Miracle Match Foundation for the perfect nude look.
#MAKEGLAMOURHAPPEN

Recreate Candice's transformation: Facefinity All Day Primer, Miracle Match Foundation, Creme Puff Blush in Alluring Rose

*Nourishes with hydration



THE MAKE-UP OF MAKE-UP ARTISTS



@I_LOVE_LIPSTICK

as a lover of crazy, neon print and clashing colours, with a shopping addiction that compels me to indulge. Sometimes in bulk. Fashion Director Anne-Marie Curtis will often pass me in the corridor and remark on my ensemble: 'Sophie, you look very... jolly today.' AMC prefers a monochromatic palette, but that is her territory, while the land of brights (clothing and make-up) is mine.

It has taken me years of trial and error to get my winter colour formula just so, and I feel this year the catwalks and I were aligned. Maybe designers have been watching my #tutoriELLEs? Either way, this is it.

Keep mega brights simple – stick to the lips. I love a bold block of colour against paler skin. The tones you would generally wear on your lips – the reds, pinks, corals – work best to create a beautiful, standout contrast, but those are the exact tones that don't work well on the eyelids.

Go 'off' on the eyes. I've been harping on about muted, dirty tones for ages and now that a slew of catwalk shows went 'off' for a/w 2015, it's a thing. Perfect for a wash of colour on the lids, tonal with the winter weather and ethereally beautiful too. Go for dirty lilac, peaches and cream, mushroom and khaki.

Don't do both eyes and lips together. Simple. Universal. And no coloured blusher either.

Use taupe to balance everything out. Taupe is your winter-colour secret weapon. It matures the whole look. A fluorescent red lip looks fun with a bare lid, but sophisticated with a taupe smoky eye. Likewise, a lilac lid is taken up a level when paired with matt nude lips and taupe bronzer in place of blusher.

Try it, you'll feel a little elated. That's the main thing about colour in the darker months. It boosts the mood, I suspect not just mine either. Anne-Marie certainly seems to like it...

Yes, you can go summer bright in winter

*Tradition will have you believe that **colourific** make-up is the stuff of June, July and August. But that's not necessarily so, says the chromatically adept Sophie Beresiner*

You know when the best time to wear colour is? When it is lacking in nature. Namely, during a very British winter. There is nothing that counters a depressingly grey sky quite like a very bright lipstick. It makes more sense to me than a summer bright, when our skin already glows on its own (or with a little help from St.Tropez) and when our moods are bright in accordance with our vitamin D intake. Me, I am a winter colour advocate and, ahem, a master. I have gained a reputation in the ELLE office

ELLE ASK IT Got a beauty question? We can help. Tweet #AskELLEBeauty @ELLEBeautyTeam every Friday

YOUR KEY COLOUR KIT



LIPS: 1. Bobbi Brown Lip Pencil in Pink Guava (from the Sunset Pink Lip Trio), £39. Colour in lips for a stay-forever base. **2.** Mac Giambattista Valli Matte Lipstick in (L-R) Margherita, Tats and Eugenie, £11 each. Matt is louder and longer-lasting. **3.** Dior Addict Fluid Stick in Metamorphose, £26.50. An amazing slick of vinyl orange. **4.** Maybelline Color Drama Pencil in Nude Perfection, £4.99. Possibly the best nude lip in existence. **EYES: 5.** Benefit They're Real! Push-Up Liner in Beyond Blue, £18.50. Do a fine line or all-out wing. **CHEEKS: 6.** Nars Blush in Tribulation, £23. The perfect taupe blush

THE BIG HAIR TEST

Whatever your hair's needs, the Tresemmé Specialist ranges have the products you need to get salon-worthy hair at home



PAMELA RAMOS, MODEL

'When using the 7 Day Smooth range I don't have to straighten my hair as much as I did before, which makes getting ready for the day quicker, and it's better for my hair, too!' says Ramos. 'My favourite product was the Heat Activated Treatment, £6.99*. It keeps my hair looking straighter for longer.'



It has been a month since model Pamela Ramos, actress Mary Ballantyne, and writer Alex Rose started using three different Tresemmé Specialist ranges to suit their hair's differing needs. Ramos needed products that would keep her frizz-prone hair straighter for longer - enter the heat-activated 7 Day Smooth range. Ballantyne has been using the fast-acting Youth Boost range to bring fullness, softness and shine back to her over-processed hair (a major cause of prematurely aged tresses, don't you know). While writer Rose wanted to give her dull, dry locks some much-needed TLC with the oil-enriched Oleo Radiance range. Here's how they got on...

MARY BALLANTYNE, ACTRESS

'The Youth Boost range has made my daily routine so easy and gives my hair much more body,' says Mary. 'I have found that the Fullness Emulsion Spray, £6.99*, has given my hair a boost, it has a more youthful bounce to it.'



ALEX ROSE, WRITER

'Using the Oleo Radiance range has made brushing my hair much easier. The hero for me is the Oil Elixir, £8.99*. I apply it to the ends of my hair and it absorbs instantly. It's incredibly lightweight, yet has made my hair more manageable; it looks really healthy and shiny now, too.'



WATCH IT

See how you can get the best results from the Tresemmé Specialist range at thehairacademyuk.com



#ELLEBEAUTYCUPBOARD



Behati Prinsloo

She's a Victoria's Secret Angel and face of Juicy Couture. No wonder the 26-year-old Namibian looks flawless 24/7

BEAUTY CUPBOARD
BEHATI PRINSLOO



NIGHT-TIME STAPLES

I wear Giorgio Armani Rouge D'Armani lipstick, £27 (7). I also use Kevyn Aucoin Celestial Bronzing Veil in Tropical Days, £38 (5), Make Up For Ever Smoky Extravagant Mascara, £18, and Stila Stay All Day Waterproof Liquid Eyeliner, £13 (3).

HAIR HYDRATORS

To keep my hair healthy, I use Klorane Nourishing and Untangling Conditioning Balm, £6.50 (1). If it's super-dry from styling, I run Rodin Olio Luxury Hair Oil, £52 (4), through the mid-lengths to the ends.



SKIN SAVIOURS

I drink a lot of water, which keeps my skin healthy, and I wear SPF 30 every day. I use Biologique Recherche's Serum Amniotique E, £82 (8), and I see facialist Georgia Louise in New York twice a month.

THE MULTITASKER

Elizabeth Arden Eight Hour Cream, £26 (9), lives in my bag. I use it on my cuticles, and on my lips if they feel chapped.

FRESH FRAGRANCE

I change my scent every season, but when I was introduced to I Am Juicy Couture, £69 for 100ml (2), I fell totally in love with it.

GLOW GETTER

I love Crème De La Mer The Body Crème, £160 (11). My skin is naturally quite dry but this keeps it moisturised all day. I also apply Nars Mono Body Glow II, £45 (6), all over for a natural, healthy look.



NATURAL FIX

Aloe Vera is the best! I pick leaves from my own plant and apply to my skin as a moisturiser [ELLE recommends Grown Alchemist Hydra-Repair Day Cream, £24 (10)].

SEE IT

For more supermodel beauty secrets and the latest must-haves, visit elleuk.com/beauty

✉ @ELLEBEAUTYTEAM

NEW BLUSH RULES

As of now, there are four new, genius blush options that will do wonders for your face. Topshop's holographic blush sponge (no need for brushes) is an affordable necessity; Bourjois' sheer, long-hold water-based cream is ultra-flattering; Dior's creamy stick buffs into skin seamlessly; and Givenchy offers a non-stick jelly option that returns to its original form after you apply it. From top: Topshop Glow Dome in Galactic, £9; Bourjois 12hr Aqua Blush in Cocori Coral, £8.99; Dior Diorblush Cheek Stick in Composite Coral, £26; Givenchy Blush Memoire de Forme in Rose Delicat, £26



Chantecaille Protect The Wolves Eye Shade Trio, £65. Pretty, refillable and 5% of proceeds go to the US-based wildlife-protection group Conservation Northwest to protect wolves. Look good and do good – what's not to love?



The beauty brief

A-list scents, a modern way to blush and the lip lacquer of the future. This month is bad for your bank balance (sorry)

SMELL LIKE BEYONCÉ

Who runs the perfume world? Beyoncé. As Queen of Everything, if she says this sweet, musky perfume is great, we're going with it. Meanwhile, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley's second fragrance for M&S, Nuit, is the darker big sister to Rosie, Marks & Spencer Beauty's best-selling product. Beyoncé Heat Kissed, £25 for 30ml; Rosie for Autograph Nuit EDP, £18 for 30ml



FRESH ANGLE

This one surprised all the seasoned editors at the launch. The New Dimension range is about emphasising the natural angles and contours of your face, but the hero product? Expert Liquid Tape. Pull skin taut, apply a strip of clear gel, allow to dry, and voilà! The skin stays pretty tight. I mean, really! Estée Lauder New Dimension Expert Liquid Tape, £46, and Expert Serum, £62

VELVET UNDERGROUND

This could just be the holy grail of high-impact lip colour – and we don't say that lightly. It's like painting on liquid velvet, but it's also a stain, so even if you drink all the drinks, it will still be there. Plus, it has a sheen but it doesn't stick: must be some kind of lipstick witchcraft. Giorgio Armani Ecstasy Lacquer, £27 each



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*Shine so gorgeous
I feel unstoppable.*



NEW TRESemmé OLEO RADIANCE

Restore dry, dull hair with our unique blend of pure salon oils. Nourish your hair from within, for gorgeous shine that won't weigh your hair down.

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PROFESSIONAL. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.



MILES OF MAC, BY JAMES GAGER AND MILES ALDRIDGE (RIZZOLI INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS)

This is one big, beautiful book of the most inspiring editorial make-up looks, created by Mac's Creative Director James Gager and shot by world-renowned photographer Miles Aldridge. Spanning the brand's 30 years as a pioneer in professional make-up, the 100 looks include all its famous campaigns. (Out now, £30)



BOB RECINE: ALCHEMY OF BEAUTY, BY BOB RECINE (DAMIANI)

He counts Kate Hudson, Angelina Jolie and Tilda Swinton as clients, so it's fair to say Bob Recine can create a hairstyle to suit anyone. This book gathers his original artwork, from sketches, collages and paintings, to published and unpublished editorial images of his extraordinary headresses, worn by the likes of Lady Gaga. Eye candy at its best. (Out now, £32)

THE TOP 5 beauty books

Buy. Read. Love. ELLE curates the perfect shelfie with the best make-up manuals to educate and inspire



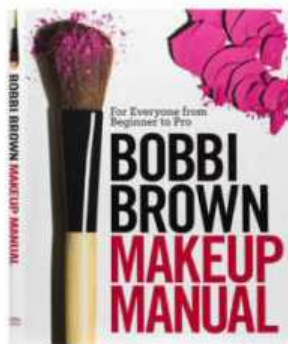
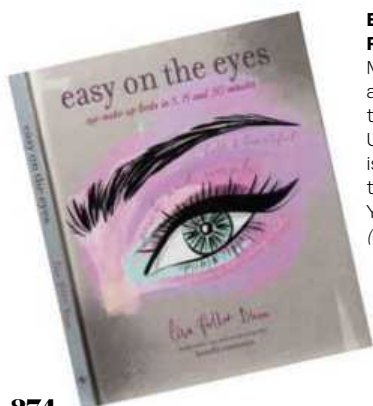
FACE PAINT: THE STORY OF MAKEUP, BY LISA ELDRIDGE (ABRAMS IMAGE)

Along with all of the trappings of a beauty book (gorgeous paintings, illustrations and iconic photography), Lancôme's Official Global Creative Makeup Director and YouTube sensation Lisa Eldridge explores the history of beauty from ancient Egypt to your make-up bag today. (Out 13 Oct, £18.99)



EASY ON THE EYES, BY LISA POTTER-DIXON (ABRAMS IMAGE)

Master your eye make-up in five, 15 and 30 minutes with step-by-step tutorials from Benefit's Head Make-Up Artist Lisa Potter-Dixon. Everything is covered, from prep to conquering the classic flick, to night-out ideas. Your party-season essential. (Out 10 Sept, £14.99)



BOBBI BROWN MAKEUP MANUAL: FOR EVERYONE FROM BEGINNER TO PRO, BY BOBBI BROWN (HEADLINE SPRINGBOARD)

Somehow Bobbi has packed over 25 years of make-up experience into one book, including things you didn't even know you needed to know, such as how to tell when your products have gone out of date. A must-have. (Out now, £20)





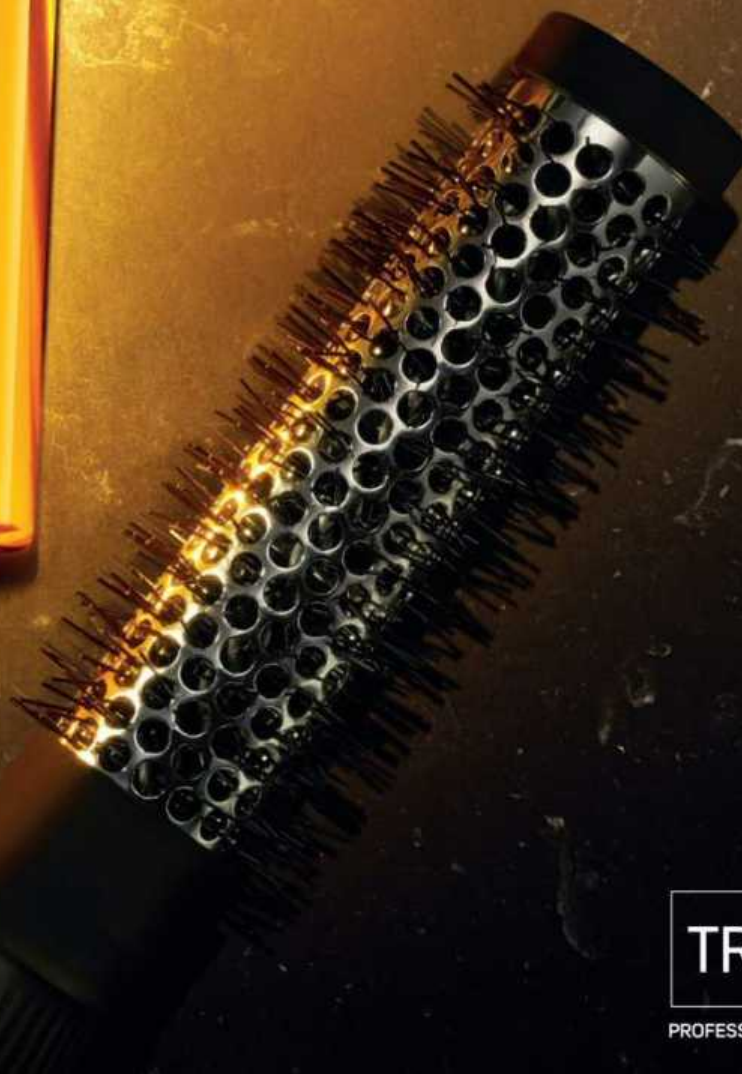
New

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**The secret to
model-beautiful hair?**

head & sssssshhoulders

*Visible flakes seen at 2ft with regular use.



When it comes to her hair, **Sofia Vergara** doesn't compromise and neither should you. Get up to **100% flake-free*** and **model-beautiful hair** with Head & Shoulders Smooth & Silky Shampoo and Conditioner.



BEET IT

Want to improve your workout? Add beetroot to your pre-exercise diet. Its high inorganic nitrate content (a soluble good salt) is converted in the body to nitric oxide, which helps open blood vessels and increases blood flow around your body, improving stamina. Eat a beet two hours before your workout or down a Beet It Sport Pro-Elite shot, £1.49 from Waitrose.

TRY THIS

One for competitive types: hook yourself up to the UK's first heart-monitored TRX class this month thanks to Heartcore. Your progress is projected on a big screen in front of the class, so you can chase your goals or compete against each other in real time. From £17 in Chelsea and Fulham Studios.

TOP TIP

Fitnotes

GEAR UP

Clockwise, from left: reduce your bounce by 83% with Panache's award-winning **sports bra**, £38. Your future chest will thank you. panache-lingerie.com; this month, Sweaty Betty unveils a multi-sport nine-piece capsule collection. Only 100 of each design will be available, so if you want to get your hands on this KickBoard **Swimsuit**, £125, do it quick. sweatybetty.com; doctors recommend exercising at 60% to 80% of your maximum heart rate, so **monitor** it with Mio's new Alpha 2, £149.90. It also estimates calories burned and measures your pace, speed and distance. mioglobal.com; Reebok has teamed up with cult Swedish make-up brand Face Stockholm to create **trainers** that match the latest make-up trends, like these metallic Classic Leathers in Impulsive, £60. We want! reebok.co.uk



INNER BEAUTY
FIT NOTES

30 MINUTES is the perfect amount of time to exercise because you push yourself harder if you know the workout is shorter, according to the *American Journal Of Physiology*.

YOUR PERFECT WORKOUT TRAINER



WHAT: Asics Gel-Fit Vida, £100

WHO? The gym-goer

WHY? The sole is made from a single piece of material, making it more durable for the gym, and the Rearfoot Gel Cushioning will keep you comfortable while lifting weights.



WHAT: Cloudflyer, £130

WHO? The all-rounder

WHY? The zero-gravity foam on the sole gives you a cushioned landing, then a firm take-off, making it ideal for all types of exercise from running to cycling, tennis to gym classes. It's like having springs on your feet.



WHAT: New Balance Vazee Pace, £65

WHO? The injured

WHY? It's inspired by the kinesiology taping technique, which provides strategic support for the muscles in your feet. The Vazee Pace is an ideal shoe to wear for any type of training.



WHAT? adidas Ultra Boost, £130

WHO? The runner

WHY? The various types of mesh adapt to the foot's natural expansion, and its heel construction frees up the Achilles tendon, allowing a stride akin to being barefoot. ▶

THE PERFECT FIT: A FITNESS FAN GOES HEAD TO HEAD WITH A WORKOUT SHIRKER. PICK YOUR SIDE AND FEEL BETTER FOR IT

THIS GIRL CAN

BY NATALIE LUKAITIS



I love a challenge. Triathlon? Sign me up. 3k swim? In the bag. Half Ironman? I'm working on it. I guess this makes me something of a fitness fanatic. I just like it, plus I love the bonuses. I want arms like

Michelle Obama, a bum like Jessica Alba and abs like Gisele. So if an exercise is on offer, I'll do it.

It's not just the physical side of fitness that I love (although being strong enough to carry multiple bags home is a bonus) - it's the mental side too. When I'm exercising, I feel unstoppable. When it ends, I'm on a massive endorphin high. For me, nothing pays off as consistently as fitness. If I work out, I feel good.

I suspect the #ELLEfit activities we organise every Wednesday lunchtime are a sly employee improvement initiative by our Editor-in-Chief: increased blood flow means a better functioning brain, so when we exercise, we release a protein called Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor, which acts as a reset switch making us feel at ease and clear-minded post-workout. Those impromptu Wednesday

afternoon features ideas are the pay-off. Well done, Lorraine.

Then there's the community aspect. I love the camaraderie. I love that strangers encourage one another and friends support each other. It makes me feel electric. You know that annoying person giving a loud 'whoop' during your Psycle class? That's me. The body combatter throwing a punch and a whole lot of sweat like she's an extra in Mortal Kombat? Guilty. I even enjoy the pain afterwards.

A massage never feels as good as it does the day after you've put your body through the wringer.

I wasn't always this active though. When I was a kid, my parents made me try every sport known to mankind - power walking included. Without fail, I dropped each one like a hot brick. But when I reached my 20s, I decided to embrace fitness regularly. Once I got into a rhythm, I couldn't stop.

As the saying goes, 'To each their own.' No particular exercise works for everyone. What works for me might not work for you, but I'm a strong believer that it's a matter of saying yes to new challenges at the beginning and then letting your body find its groove further down the track. More than 38,000 people ran the London Marathon this year, and over the past two years, a quarter of a million women have taken up cycling in the UK. There's a movement going on, no doubt about it. Question is, who's going to get involved? I am.

 @NATLUKAITIS



 @I_LOVE_LIPSTICK

THIS GIRL CAN'T BE BOTHERED

BY SOPHIE BERESINER



There is a definite divide in the ELLE office. I fall into the 'whine' category, as in: please stop emailing me fitness invites. I have an exercise inferiority complex. Also, rhymes with 'wine'.

Those can-doers either genuinely enjoy exercise - imagine feeling distressed if you can't work out every day! - or have a miraculous ability to run and talk at the same time. This is where social exercising falls down for me. I hear everyone say it's easier with others, it's more fun, you just have a laugh. But I beg to differ. Running is not conducive to laughing. I cannot waste precious, rasping breaths on expelling a humorous anecdote. This is the least of my worries, however. First, I'd need to concentrate on keeping my bodily functions intact.

There is an element of control freakery in there - I am slightly afraid of failure, I am competitive, and exercising en masse throws up all kinds of social anxieties. And then there's that: actual throwing up. Now, that's what I'm afraid of. So I am a gentle, private exerciser. I go at my pace, I fall in and out of fads and I can go entire winters without so much as walking to the tube (there is a bus option).

'I AM COMPETITIVE, AND EXERCISING EN MASSE THROWS UP ALL KINDS OF SOCIAL ANXIETIES'

But I also feel inspired by the can-doers. Particularly when a bikini holiday might be looming or my jeans feel too tight, let's be honest. So I really do try. I honestly do, but I do it on my terms.


I know exercise is important, I want fun in my workout, I need something that boosts my motivation in the absence of a (freakish) natural love of exercise, be that an engrossing app (Zombies, Run!) or some amazing new kit - preferably fluorescent. This girl can't really be bothered, but she's still trying, goddammit. ●

#ELLEFIT

For more fitness inspiration, visit elleuk.com/beauty/health-fitness.



'MORE THAN 38,000 PEOPLE RAN THE LONDON MARATHON THIS YEAR AND A QUARTER OF A MILLION WOMEN HAVE TAKEN UP CYCLING IN THE UK'



A new bohemia awaits.
Mists of honeyed, golden mimosa
float above the spiciness
of freshly crushed cardamom.
Warm, ethereal, mesmerising.

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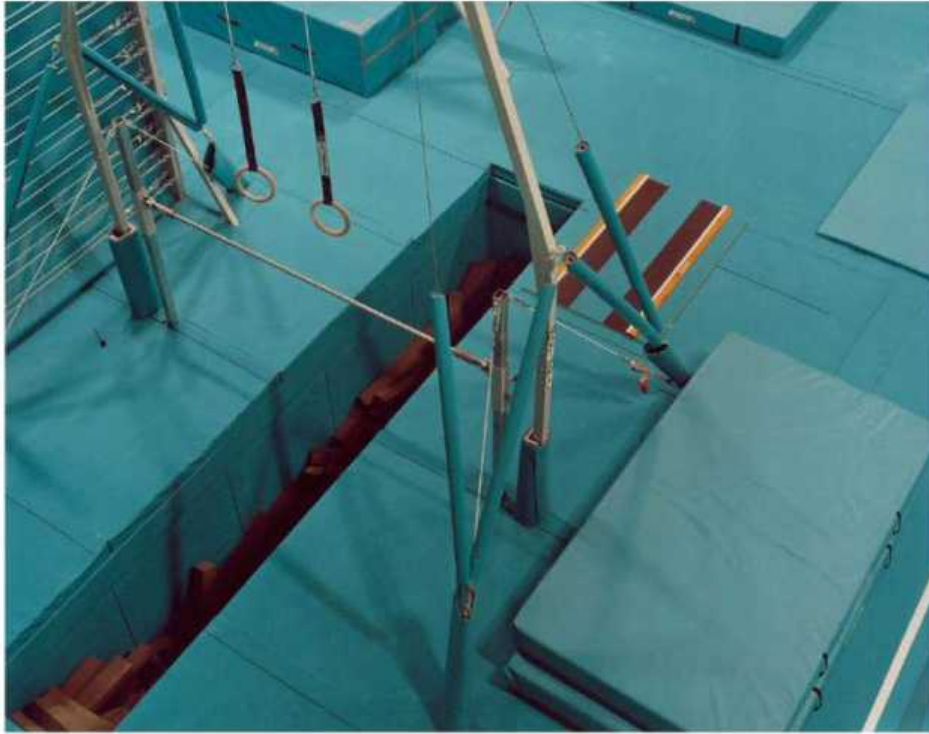
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WOMAN ON WIRE

*When writer **Rebecca Harrington** set out to conquer her fear of heights through trapeze fitness – the cult workout that counts Kate Upton, Gisele Bündchen and Sarah Jessica Parker as fans – she discovered a new exercise phenomenon that’s changing women’s lives, by just hanging out*

[@HARRING46](#)

If I am honest, my exercise regime is always stuck in a mildly degraded rut. It’s not my fault necessarily, but I am a plodder and I am ruled by fear. This naturally makes one’s exercise regime rather pedestrian. I run occasionally but I don’t ‘switch it up’ or ‘break the boundaries of what you can physically do with your body’. Why? Because it might hurt, so it’s not worth it.

However, in a fit of inspiration (it happens to me about once a year), I decided to try something new, something to shake my fitness regime out of its malaise. A trapeze fitness class! According to the people at trapfit.com (the LA-based leaders in the field), it’s taking the A-list by storm. Kate

Upton is said to be a Trapfit regular, and Anna Kendrick, Gisele Bündchen, Leonardo DiCaprio and Sarah Jessica Parker have all tried similar circus-style workouts.

So what is trapeze fitness, you may ask? Well, it uses trapeze-based routines to strengthen and tone your body. Health benefits include core and joint strength, and the emotional perks are that you get to revisit your childhood, swinging around like a nine-year-old on a jungle gym.

There was only one problem. I hate hanging upside down and I hate heights. Even as a child, when there were monkey bars all around me, the whole thing struck me as just too risky for words. When the 1996 Olympic gymnastics teams were all

5 OTHER TRANSFORMATIVE WORKOUTS

 @ELLEFITTEAM

1. PARKOUR

Parkour is a discipline developed from French military training that will have you running, jumping and climbing your way to a better you. It'll help improve strength, agility and spatial awareness through navigating outdoor obstacles (think buildings, fences and parking ramps), as well as build confidence and determination.

Try: parkouruk.org

2. MOTR

Movement On The Roller (MOTR) is the latest Pilates-inspired workout to come to the UK. Great for connecting mental and physical health, it gives you all the results of regular Pilates – increased stability, flexibility, balance and core strength – with the added benefit of toned, lean muscles.

Try: be-pilates.co.uk

3. HYDROSPINNING

Basically an underwater spin class, without the sweat. The water makes you feel weightless, and waterproof bikes mean no speed adjustments. You can choose between four chromotherapeutic light options that promote vitality, relaxation, concentration and compassion.

Try: hydrofitnessolutions.co.uk

4. AERIAL YOGA

With aerial yoga, you 'explore the air' while realigning your body and getting the blood flowing. Move your body into traditional yoga poses, but with the support of a hammock. Lie down, sit, and stand in the sling, while cultivating a peaceful state of mind.

Try: aerialyogalondon.co.uk

5. FITNESS BARRE

A hybrid of Pilates, ballet, and strength training, barre fitness classes focus on posture, lower-body sculpting and flexibility. Plus, the dance element demands discipline and encourages self-expression.

Try: barrecore.co.uk

the rage (we Americans loved Kerri Strug, the gymnast who was carried to the podium for her gold medal after performing on an injured ankle), I watched politely as my more daring compatriots tried various stunts on the bars. I was not prepared to break my foot for an adrenaline rush.

However, in order to expand your horizons and get out of your rut, you must do things you fear (or absolutely abhor) and, with that lesson in mind, I decided to go to my first trapeze class.

My first leap of faith took place in a light-filled studio called the Om Factory in Manhattan's Flatiron district. There were several trapezes set up and people were already doing terrifying things on them – like hanging upside down by their feet. Most of the participants were women and they all had muscly arms like Jennifer Aniston. The instructor was impossibly lithe and ripped in the same, fleshless way I have seen only on Madonna. Clearly, this routine works.

We began with a series of shoulder shrugs and tucks on the trapeze (this is when you hold the trapeze bar – which hangs at shoulder height but can be adjusted – and pull your legs up). Standing back and observing, it almost seemed achievable – even like something you could watch someone do in the playground without experiencing massive sympathetic fear.

Soon, it was my turn to try the trapeze for myself. I jumped up, imagining how easily I could just shrug my shoulders and tuck like the rest of the Jennifer Anistons there. It was only then that I realised how incredibly difficult it is to shrug your shoulders while hanging from a bar. Or virtually impossible for a woman who does not have Jennifer Aniston arms. But it felt surprisingly good to at least try.

Next, I went into a pike, which is when you put your feet over your head while hanging down from the bar. Simple, right? I guess it would be if you had any abdominal strength. I wobbled horribly and had to come down immediately.

I took a break before the final exercise in the warm-up – hanging from the trapeze by your knees, without using your hands. I was so filled with fear I just decided to quit

in the middle. The instructor seemed extremely disappointed, but all I could think about was a story my dad once told me about a man he knew who fell on his neck and was paralysed forever, so I really couldn't do it.

Normally, failing so much in front of Jennifer Aniston would bother me, but the

other women in the room were very supportive, as they seamlessly executed complicated aerial moves involving the splits. They said things like, 'Good job hanging from that bar!' while I dangled lamely in the air trying to kick my feet over my head and failing miserably. They were also true trapeze evangelists. Many discussed its meditative properties, telling me it made them feel more centred and at peace because they didn't have time to feel anxious while doing the movements (you can't really think of anything else when your life is at stake, I suppose).

'Even on my most rattled days, I come away from the class feeling happy,' says Tanya, a professor who is a regular. She is also convinced that a French man gave her his phone number on the train because of trapeze's effect on her body. Another told me it challenged her to confront her intimacy issues by embracing the trust element in the exercises.

The next part of the class was even worse. A man got up on a very high trapeze and hung there while the more advanced women in the class did a complicated routine while holding onto his arms and legs. When it was my turn, I just clung to him for dear life.

'Kick your feet over your head!' said the instructor, as I just hung there like an old sock on the washing line. I couldn't move. The instructor seemed displeased. I decided to take another break.

As I sipped my water, I thought it through. What was so scary, really? Sure, you could die by falling on your neck, but in all probability you would live through the accident. What was I so afraid of? OK, paralysis. But, whatever. When my turn came up again, I successfully kicked my feet over my head and stayed there for a bit. Guess what? I thought of nothing! Not debilitating injuries, not Kerri Strug, or any of the other things that make me neurotic in life. *I simply hung there.*

As I write this, very sore, I feel pretty invigorated by the experience. Sure, it may be scary, but it was also kind of fun. ●



DO IT Challenge yourself with fresh workout ideas at elleuk.com/beauty



@ZONEWLOVE



'Simple Kind To Skin Micellar Cleansing Wipes are a bathroom cabinet staple,' says Zoe. 'I use them when I'm super tired or during the day to freshen up. I also use them at the gym.'

WORK HARD, LOOK GREAT

No matter how busy your lifestyle might be, looking after your skin is **Simple**, says beauty blogger Zoe Newlove

On those days when it feels like there just aren't enough hours, it's tempting to let your skincare routine slide. As busy make-up artist and blogger Zoe Newlove puts it: 'Sometimes it is such an effort to even put make-up on never mind take make-up off! But I learnt long ago that my skin would break out or look really dull and lifeless if I didn't look after it — I always cleanse now.'

For Zoe, the Simple Micellar range is a stand-out because 'it really caters for my dehydrated skin, leaving it instantly hydrated and fresh looking,' she says. Her secret weapons? Simple Kind To Skin Micellar Cleansing Wipes ('They are a bathroom cabinet staple,' she says) and Simple Kind To Skin Micellar Cleansing Water. 'Now, taking my make-up off is like auto pilot — I always do it, no matter how busy or tired I am.' With skincare that's so easy, effective and kind to all skin types, 'Now', she notes, 'there's no excuse.'



KEEPING IT SIMPLE

Make sure your skin stays fresh and hydrated with Simple Kind To Skin Micellar Cleansing Water and Simple Kind To Skin Micellar Cleansing Wipes

LISA VALENCIA, MAKE-UP ARTIST

'Good cleansing is the first step to great skin. I like to use Simple Micellar Water before I apply any make-up'



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

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[†]Visit DoubleTree.com for terms and conditions.

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Eco hotels

Here's to all the resorts doing their bit for the planet, from tree planting to volcano-heated water: **1 Tabacón Grand Spa Thermal Resort, La Fortuna, Costa Rica** (lhw.com/tabacon); **2 Casas Bioclimáticas, Tenerife** (casas.iter.es/en); **3 DDG Retreat, Casares, Andalusia** (ddgretreat.com); **4 Alila Uluwatu, Bali** (fattoriasanmartino.it); **5 Fattoria San Martino, Montepulciano, Tuscany** (essentialitaly.co.uk). Also this month, a wild honeymoon in Costa Rica, plus New York's iconic Plaza Hotel.

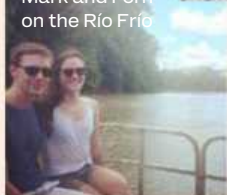


#NOFILTERNEEDED
Alila Uluwatu, Bali

Each room at Pacuare has a private terrace



Mark and Fern on the Río Frío



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PACKS A LOT INTO
A COSTA RICAN
HONEYMOON

Buttercup, the Sloth Sanctuary's most famous resident

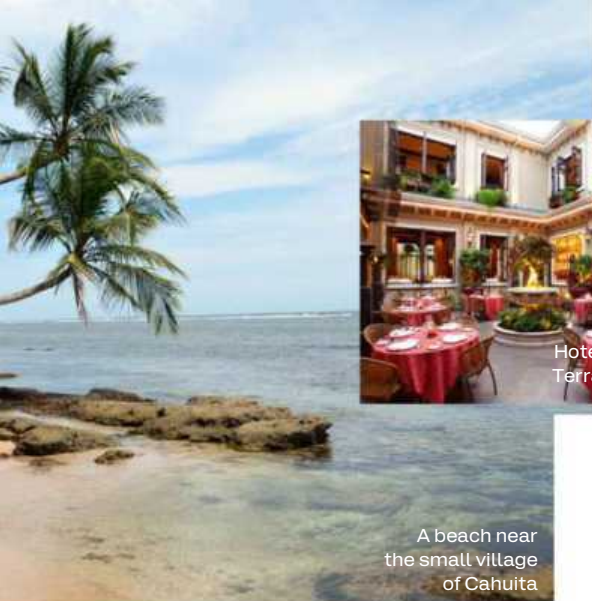


The honeymoon suite at Hotel Grano de Oro



The Beach Club at Le Caméléon Boutique Hotel





A beach near the small village of Cahuita



Hotel Grano de Oro's Terraza Restaurant

I'm hurtling along a zip wire at a zillion miles an hour, shrieking at the top of my lungs, when I stop freaking out about the 320ft drop into the rainforest, and take in the view. To my right is the majestic Arenal volcano, still smoking away; in front of me the blue waters of its namesake lake. Welcome to Costa Rica.

As someone who finds it impossible to sit still, with a new husband (Mark) who hates sunbathing, our honeymoon brief was plenty of action, some seaside downtime, and, after a winter wedding, an escape from the cold. With its wildlife, beaches, eco lodges and action-hero opportunities, Costa Rica ticked all the boxes.

After a 14-hour flight from London (via Houston), we land in the capital, San José, to be greeted by one of our drivers for the next two weeks, Roy of Saint Germain Tours (it's worth paying extra for private transport).

Our first hotel, Grano de Oro, is not what you'd expect in the middle of Costa Rica's most populated city (288,000), with its colonial-style architecture, sunken baths and plantation shutters, but we love it. And we've just enough energy left to jump into the rooftop hot tub. Take that, jet lag.

Caribbean Coast

After a breakfast of omelette and aromatic Costa Rican coffee (its biggest export after pineapples and bananas), we're back on the road for the scenic five-hour drive to Puerto

Viejo, a busy town on the Caribbean coast.

We finally pitch up at Le Caméléon, a boutique hotel just outside town. With all-white rooms and pops of neon, it has a Balearic vibe. Outside, wooden footpaths lead through jungle gardens to an impressive pool.

On the beach we find Tasty Waves: a surf shack serving fish tacos and the local Imperial beer. After a dip in the wild sea (this coast has a lot of rip tides, so beware), we head into town. KOKi Beach is a buzzy bar with a seafront view and reclaimed furniture, where, tucking into bowls of plantain chips and guacamole, we watch boys showing off their capoeira moves.

At nearby Hot Rocks, famous for live reggae and salsa, is a tiny open kitchen, where local women cook up a mountain of succulent, spicy-yet-sweet chicken, coconut rice, plantain and beans for 3,000 colones each (about £3.50). It may be the best £3.50 I have ever spent.

'WE WATCH FIREFLIES AND LISTEN TO A CRESCENDO OF CICADAS AS THE JUNGLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVERBANK COMES TO LIFE'



Le Caméléon's Balearic details

DON'T MISS...

• SKY TREK

Zip lining, rapids, jet skis, mountain biking... all your action is covered. We did our zip lining in the Arenal rainforest, but you can also try the Monteverde Cloud Forest. skyadventures.travel.com

• THE SLOTH SANCTUARY

Meet the sanctuary's most famous resident, the beyond-cute Buttercup (the world's oldest known living sloth, star of many a wildlife documentary), get a lesson in all things sloth and go on a tour round the sloth nursery: basically, a room full of infant sloths. Adorable doesn't even begin to cover it. Closed Mondays. +506 2750 0775; slothsanctuary.com



The view of Lake Arenal from the Sky Tram. Left: The firepit at Pacuare Lodge

Central Costa Rica

A couple of hours north of Puerto Viejo is the riverside town of Siquirres, from where we begin our white-water rafting adventure, travelling 90 minutes down the world-famous Pacuare River (as seen in *Jurassic Park*) to Pacuare Lodge. You're only allowed minimal luggage, which is dry-packed and sent downriver in the

capable hands (read: muscles) of Big Luiz. The rest goes in the lodge's secure lock-up at Siquirres.

Eighteen of us ready ourselves for the ride. We get sprayed, soaked and shoved every which way by the grade-three rapids (they go from one to five), winding through deep canyons lined with dense jungle.

Arriving exhausted but exhilarated, we're escorted to our home for the next two nights: a beautiful palm-thatched hut (one of 34) with teak floors, a huge terrace overlooking the river, heated outdoor shower and - the best bit - no electricity. It is perfect battery-recharging territory.

That evening, a romantic dinner of squash soup, steak, chocolate mousse and Chilean pinot noir is laid next to the riverside firepit, and we watch fireflies and listen to a crescendo of cicadas as the jungle on the other side of the





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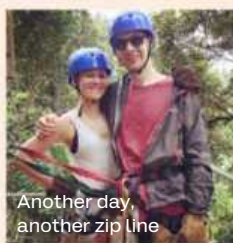
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Another day, another zip line

DON'T MISS...

•HIKING, CASA CORCOVADO, OSA PENINSULA

The guided hike starts at 6am, heading from the hotel grounds into Corcovado park proper, to see sloths, howler monkeys, coatis, toucans, macaws and many other brightly coloured native birds. You clamber down a steep tractor trail and along the beach into rainforest, where you'll spot hermit crabs and lots of Jesus lizards (because they can walk on water). It's so humid, you'll be dripping with sweat, but after three miles you reach a waterfall with deep natural pools at its foot: dive in to cool off. casacorcovado.com

riverbank comes to life. It's our first proper 'honeymoon' moment, and after relentless months of wedding planning, it's a perfect opportunity to focus on us.

After two totally chilled days, we're ready to re-enter reality - but not before another white-water adventure: the journey out of Pacuare is a three-and-a-half hour ride along a championship course. Rafts are packed with luggage and lunch, and we set off, careering through grade-four rapids. I'm drenched but in my element.

After 90 minutes, we picnic on a quiet riverbank and swim in the clear waters, before rafting back to pick up our luggage in Siquirres.

Cloud Forest

We're off to the mountainous north, and after two and a half hours of twisting and turning, we pull up to El Silencio Lodge & Spa, a luxury eco hotel near Bajos del Toro, in Poas Volcano National Park. Its unique eco system, rich in flora and fauna, is heaven for nature lovers like us.

As with Pacuare, we have our own little villa, this time with heaters

- night temperatures can drop to 5°C, even in high season (mid-November to April) - and a terrace with an outdoor hot tub and mountain views.

El Silencio is foodie heaven. We feast on so much fresh trout tartare (from the lodge's pond), rich osso buco risotto and banana flambé with coconut ice cream, we're almost too full for a dip in the hot tub.

A hike up into the lodge's vast grounds the next morning takes care of some of those calories. With three incredible waterfalls on site, you can do a good two-hour loop- just as well, as dinner is another amazing spread.

Pacific Coast

From Bajos del Toro, via San Jose, we fly to Drake Bay to get to Corcovado National Park, on the famously beautiful south-western Osa Peninsula. Boarding a Nature Air prop plane (18 seats!), we sit right

'SHOULD YOU SEE THE ON-SITE PUMA, MAKE YOURSELF LOOK BIG AND SLOWLY WALK BACKWARDS...'

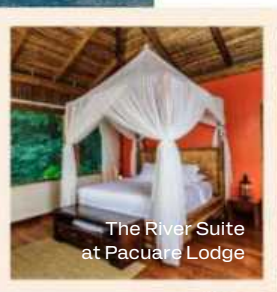
behind the pilots. The nerve-racking 40-minute flight is worth it for the views alone: miles of unspoilt Pacific coastline beneath your feet, then touchdown on a tiny palm tree-lined airstrip.

Our guide for the next three days is Fabian, who drives us the 20 minutes to Drake Bay in the hotel's Jeep, fording a stream en route. We pack our luggage in bin bags and clamber into a boat for the half-hour ride around the clifly Osa Peninsula to Casa Corcovado: a luxury eco-lodge with beautiful gardens, solar-powered swimming pool, hammock-lined beach, and 14 bungalows, surrounded by 170 acres of primary rainforest. This really is as away from it all as you can get.

It's steaming hot, so we rush to our bungalow (whitewashed walls, outdoor seating, four-poster bed) to change into our swimsuits, but not before reading the hotel's guest guide: 'Should you see the on-site



White-water rafting on the Pacuare River



The River Suite at Pacuare Lodge



Taking a break while hiking at Corcovado National Park



El Silencio Lodge & Spa



The River Suite
at Pacuare Lodge. Below:
Fern at the Sunset Bar,
Casa Corcovado

'THE BEST SIGHTING COMES
ON THE RIDE BACK: A POD
OF AROUND 60 DOLPHINS
SWIMS ALONGSIDE US
FOR 15 MINUTES'

puma, make yourself look big and slowly walk backwards...' Noted.

After our *Planes, Trains & Automobiles*-esque odyssey, all we want to do is chill by the pool. At 5pm, the margarita bar, with its uninterrupted view of the sunset, is calling.

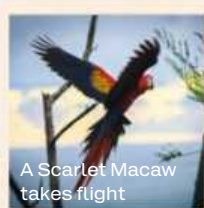
Snorkelling is on the agenda the next day and a 40-minute speedboat ride takes us to Cano Island. The reef here is busy with tourist boats from nearby Drake Bay, but even in our small patch we see reef sharks, sea turtles, stingrays and loads of multi-coloured fish. But the best sighting comes on the ride back: a pod of around 60 dolphins swims alongside us for 15 minutes.

The boat drops us at Drake Bay Airport, from where the tiny prop plane whisks us back to San José to meet Roy, who takes us to our final destination: Arenal Volcano, 56 miles north west of the capital. Our final residence is a two-hour drive and

DON'T MISS...

• BIRDWATCHING, EL SILENCIO

A quick 5am coffee sets you up for the quest to find the famed quetzal (a flamboyant native bird). You might think you're not a twitcher, but the birds in Costa Rica are so resplendent – brightly coloured, beautiful calls – that you can't help but get into it. After wandering around the lodge's grounds, head back for breakfast of freshly baked banana bread, homemade granola with yoghurt, tropical fruit, and poached eggs with a spicy tomato, coriander and lime sauce on a tortilla.



A Scarlet Macaw
takes flight

a world away from our other lodges: Tabacón Grand Spa Thermal Resort, home of the famous Tabacón Hot

Springs, which are fed by the therapeutic volcanic waters of Arenal.

Our room alone is worth the trip, with floor-to-ceiling windows giving panoramic views of the volcano. The best bit? As hotel guests, we're allowed access to the springs whenever we want, so we grab the free shuttle service, and five minutes later we're sipping G&Ts in the soothing warm waters.

We're up early for a two-hour boat trip along the Río Frío, through the Cano Negro Wildlife Refuge, towards the Nicaraguan border. On the way back, we lunch on *casado* (a traditional meat, rice, plantain and beans dish) before heading back to the hot springs.

Our final day in Costa Rica is, of course, packed. In the morning, it's the famous Sky Trek zip lines. Whooshing through the

treetops at up to 50 miles an hour is a serious adrenaline rush, and the views – like pretty much everything in Costa Rica – are out of this world.

Afterwards we make a pact to carry a bit of *pura vida* (the national saying, which roughly translates into, 'Life is wonderful, enjoy it') with us into our new life together in London. So far, we're doing a good job of sticking to it. ●



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GETTING THERE

Costa Rica Revealed, part of UK-based Latin America specialists Central & South America Revealed and Mercator Travel, offers two-week tailor-made trips to Costa Rica from £1,986pp, including B&B, some meals, transfers, excursions, and flights via the USA. 01932 424252; costaricarevealed.co.uk

STAY

LE CAMÉLÉON HOTEL

Doubles from £175, room only; lecameleonhotel.com

HOTEL GRANO DE ORO

From £100, room only; hotelgranodeoro.com

PACUARE LODGE

Doubles from £560 for three nights, full board and transport included; pacuarelodge.com

HOTEL EL SILENCIO

Doubles from £232, room only; elsilenciolodge.com

CASA CORCOVADO

Packages from £842pp per night, including full board, transfers and park fees; casacorcovado.com

TABACÓN GRAND SPA THERMAL RESORT

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SAINT JOHN HOTEL AND VILLAS, MYKONOS

Channelling the Greek flag, Saint John is all brilliant white architecture set against the gorgeous blue waters of Agios Ioannis bay (above). The 151 stylish rooms all face west for optimum views of the sun sinking into the inky sea. We watched it in style from the balcony of our junior suite, but book a luxury villa and you can do the same from your private pool. Sporty types will love the tennis courts; beach bums will like the hotel's private sandy cove a few minutes' walk away. And everyone should catch the free 10-minute shuttle to the main town, for shop-, bar- and restaurant-hopping around the maze of cobbled streets and whitewashed houses.

Saint John Hotel Villas & Spa, Agios Ioannis Beach, 84600 Mykonos. +30 22890 28752; saintjohn.gr. Doubles from £221, B&B. [easyJet \(easyjet.com\)](http://easyJet.com) has return flights to Mykonos from London Gatwick, from around £350



All rooms at the dazzling Saint John Hotel and Villas enjoy sunset views



HOT
WEEKENDS

Chasing summer

Think the sun's all over till next year?
Not if you head south...



The beach at Barceló Formentor at dusk. Left: One of Barceló Formentor's 199 rooms

BARCELÓ FORMENTOR, MALLORCA

Barceló Formentor's beautifully landscaped grounds are tucked away in a pine forest on Mallorca's northern coast, just five minutes' walk from a lovely beach. Once a hideaway for Grace Kelly and Audrey Hepburn, this pretty resort still exudes an air of old-school glamour. Each of the 199 rooms (far left) - 33 of them with gorgeous sea views - are decked out in rustic Balearic style, and a choice of five restaurants showcase the best of the Mediterranean. Try the baked eggs with local *jamón* for breakfast, and feast on freshly caught fish for dinner. Relaxation is king here, with poolside cocktails and massages within sight and sound of the sea. Chilled? Totally.

Calle Playa de Formentor 3, 07470 Port de Pollença, Mallorca. +34 971 899 100; barceloformentor.com. Doubles from £147, B&B. British Airways (ba.com) flies from London Heathrow to Palma de Mallorca, from £120 return

Morocco's fortress-like La Sultana. Right: Its outdoor terraces



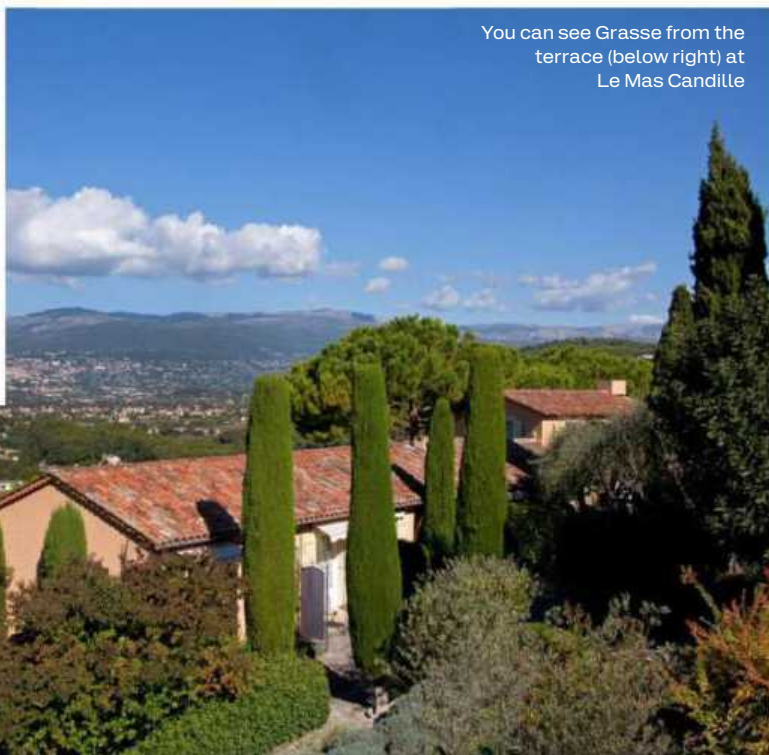
LA SULTANA, OUALIDIA, MOROCCO

Once you've made your way down the winding path from the small town of Oualidia, to the fortress-like La Sultana, you'll forget there's an outside world. Having only 12 rooms ensures plenty of hushed privacy, as well as space around the infinity pool. Each suite has its own outdoor terrace with sea-water jacuzzi, and a cosy wood fire inside for chilly autumn nights. Book the top-floor apartment and you'll get a wrap-around balcony with spectacular views across the calm lagoon to the crashing Atlantic beyond. Take a boat across the lagoon for a barbecue beach picnic in a secret cove. Back at the hotel, the hammam beckons and, come nightfall, it's back to the beach to feast on local oysters, Atlantic prawns and lamb tagine under the stars.

Parc à Huitres N 3, Bled Gaïlla, Oualidia, Morocco. +212 524 388 008; lasultanahotels.com. Doubles from £210, B&B. British Airways (ba.com) has return flights to Marrakech from London Gatwick, from £134



You can see Grasse from the terrace (below right) at Le Mas Candille



LE MAS CANDILLE, MOUGINS, FRANCE

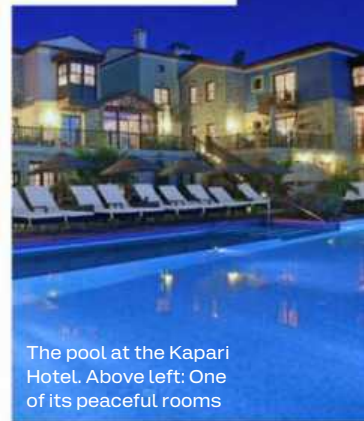
Le Mas Candille blends old-world charm with modern elegance. It may be tucked into a hillside less than 10 minutes' walk from the pretty village of Mougins, but it's also close to the glamour of Cannes and Nice. The 38 rooms and seven suites (with private terraces) are spread through a cluster of buildings around an 18th-century farmhouse, all bedecked in earth tones, dusky blues and natural textures. In the gardens (where there's a Shiseido spa, an outdoor gym and infinity pool), jasmine and lavender scent the air. Food is a big deal here – so much so that the restaurant is Michelin-starred. We loved the layered omelette cake trio and braised veal cheeks with morel mushrooms. We'll definitely be back for seconds. Le Mas Candille, Boulevard Clement Rebuffel, 06250 Mougins. +33 49 228 43 43; lemascandille.com. Doubles from £230, room only. British Airways (ba.com) has return flights to Nice from London Heathrow, from £95



KAPARI HOTEL, ALACATI, TURKEY

Currently the coolest corner of Turkey, the tiny, impossibly pretty village of Alcati (all windmills, art galleries and cobbled streets) lies on the Aegean coast, 40 miles from Izmir. The Kapari Hotel's 22 rooms are gorgeous: think beds layered with hand-embroidered linen, traditional Turkish lace hanging at the windows, and all scented with lavender. There is free (if a little erratic) WiFi, and a large pool in the gardens for shady siestas. Set yourself up for the day with al-fresco breakfasts of cheese and pastries, with strong Turkish coffee, before hitting the surf beach, just a five-minute walk away.

8024 Sokak No. 4 Alaçatı Marina Mevkii Çeşme, Izmir. +90 232 716 06 74; alacatikapariotel.com. Doubles from £95, B&B. Pegasus Airlines (flypgs.com) has direct return flights to Izmir from London Stansted, and via Istanbul from London Gatwick and London Stansted, from around £150. For more information on Alacati, visit explorealacati.com and gototurkey.co.uk



The pool at the Kapari Hotel. Above left: One of its peaceful rooms

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THE VIBE

Upstairs at The Plaza could not be more different from its opulent Beaux-Arts lobby. There are 282 guest rooms, all elegant and surprisingly light, and 29 newly redesigned supersuites. Grandly titled the Legacy Suites, they even come with a butler, no less.

**WELLBEING**

La Palestra is no ordinary gym, but a Frank Gehry-designed state-of-the-art 'wellness facility' catering for professional athletes. Be sure to book a yoga class in advance, and enjoy one of the Caudalie Spa's 'world-famous' facials in its tranquil surroundings.

**The Plaza**

Where do the ELLE fashion team stay during New York Fashion Week? Why, The Plaza, of course. Because if it's grand, historic charm you're after, but with all the 21st century mod cons you might imagine, you'll want the city's most iconic hotel. Built in the style of a French Renaissance château, it stands on the corner of Central Park, just a short walk from the designer stores on Fifth and Park Avenue. Designated as an official landmark in 1969, it maintains the decadent aura immortalised in films from *The Great Gatsby* to *American Hustle* and, of course, the classic *Eloise* children's books created by Kay Thompson.

New York

The Royal Plaza Suite's dining room

THE FOOD

Having breakfast trollied into your room (there is 24-hour room service) or taking afternoon tea (from £35) in The Palm Court is a must. A pre-dinner cocktail in the Lobby is equally satisfying. And the sprawling Plaza Food Hall downstairs features global treats, such as lobster guacamole.



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**HANDY FOR...**

Aside from the unrivalled uptown shopping meccas of Barneys and Bergdorf Goodman, the Paris Theatre, an independently owned cinema, lies across the road from The Plaza and shows great independent movies.

i The Plaza, 768 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019, +1 (212) 759 3000. Doubles from £443, room only. British Airways (ba.com) has daily return flights from London Heathrow and City to New York JFK and Newark, from £381 return.

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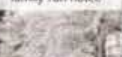
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Links of London linksoflondon.com
L.K.Bennett lkbennett.com
Loewe loewe.com
Longchamp longchamp.com
Louis Vuitton 020 7399 4050
Luisa Cerano 020 7323 6100
- M** **Mac** maccosmetics.co.uk
Madeleine Thompson madeleine-thompson.com
Maison Kitsuné kitsune.fr
Maje uk.maje.com • **Make Up For Ever** makeupforever.com
Mango mango.com • **Manolo Blahnik** 020 7352 3863 • **Marc Jacobs** marcjacobs.com • **Marc by Marc Jacobs** marcjacobs.com
Marks & Spencer marksandspencer.com • **Marni** marni.com
Marques Almeida marquesalmeida.com • **Mary Katrantzou** marykatrantzou.com • **Mason Pearson** masonpearson.co.uk
Masscob liberty.co.uk
Massimo Dutti massimodutti.com • **Matches Fashion** matchesfashion.com • **MaxMara** maxmara.com • **Maybelline** maybelline.co.uk • **MCM** mcmworldwide.com • **Messika** harrods.com • **Michael Kors** michaelkors.com • **Michael van der Ham** michaelvanderham.com
MiH Jeans mih-jeans.com • **Miss Selfridge** missselfridge.com • **Miu Miu** miumiu.com • **MM6** maisonmargiela.com • **Moncler** 020 7235 0857 • **Monki** monkiworld.com
Monsoon monsoon.co.uk • **Mulberry** mulberry.com
- N** **Nars** narscosmetics.co.uk • **New Look** newlook.com • **Nicholas Kirkwood** nicholas-kirkwood.com
Norse Projects liberty.co.uk
- O** **Oasis** oasis-stores.com
Office office.co.uk
- P** **Palmer Harding** palmerharding.com • **Pamela Love** net-a-porter.com • **Pandora** pandora.net • **Pandora Rose** pandora.net • **Paul & Joe** paulandjoe.com • **Paul & Joe x National Standard** paulandjoe.com • **Paul Smith** paulsmith.co.uk • **Peter Pilotto** lanecrawford.com • **Petit Bateau** petit-bateau.co.uk
Piaget piaget.co.uk • **Pierre Hardy** pierrehardy.com • **Pinko** pinko.it • **Prada** prada.com
- Preen Line** harveynichols.com
- R** **Radley** radley.co.uk • **Rag & Bone** 020 7730 6881; rag-bone.com • **Ralph Lauren Collection** ralphlauren.com • **Redken** redken.co.uk • **Reiss** reiss.com
Repossi net-a-porter.com
Richard Braço richardbraço.com • **River Island** riverisland.com • **Roberto Cavalli** robertocavalli.com • **Rockins** co.uk • **Rodin** oliolusso.com
Roksanda 020 7613 6499
Roland Mouret rolandmouret.com • **Russell & Bromley** russellandbromley.co.uk
- S** **Saint Laurent by Hedi Slimane** ysl.com • **Sandro** sandro-paris.com • **Sandro x Reebok Classic** sandro-paris.com • **See by Chloé** chloe.com • **Senso** senso.com.au • **Sessùn** liberty.com
Shiseido shiseido.co.uk • **Shu Uemura** shu-uemura.co.uk
Sonia Rykiel 020 7493 5255
Stella McCartney stellamccartney.com • **Stephen Jones** stephenjonesmillinery.com • **Stila** stila.co.uk • **Sunspel** sunspel.com • **Swarovski** swarovski.com
- T** **T by Alexander Wang** alexanderwang.com • **Tabitha Simmons** tabithasimmons.com • **Tara Jarmon** tarajarmon.com • **Tata Naka** tatanaka.com • **Tatty Divine** tattydivine.com • **The Fold** thefoldlondon.com • **The Great Frog** 020 7439 9357 • **The Kooples** thekooples.co.uk • **Theory** 020 7985 1188 • **Thomas Sabo** thomas-sabo.com • **Thomas Tait** thomastait.com • **Tiffany & Co.** tiffany.co.uk • **TL-180** tl-180.com • **Tod's** tods.com • **Toga** net-a-porter.com • **Topshop** topshop.com
- V** **Valentino** valentino.com
Vanessa Bruno vanessa-bruno.fr • **Vanessa Seward** net-a-porter.com • **Versace Boutique** versace.com
- W** **Warehouse** warehouse.co.uk
Whistles whistles.co.uk • **Winser London** winserlondon.com
- Y** **Yazbukey for Linda Farrow** lindafarrow.com • **YMC** youmustcreate.com
YSL yslbeauty.co.uk
- Z** **Zara** zara.com

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WATCH THE SHOWS

Take your seat at one of four exciting catwalk shows from top British designers. Stars this season include House of Holland and Peter Pilotto.

**THE LOWE DOWN**

London Fashion Week ambassador Daisy Lowe will be sharing her style tips and more. For updates, follow her @daisylowe.



London's most stylish weekend

Get an exclusive look into the
world of fashion with ELLE and
London Fashion Weekend

**THE INFORMATION**

When: 24-27 September

Where: Saatchi Gallery, King's Road, London SW3

Tickets: From £20; londonfashionweekend.co.uk

Also: Get 20% off (excluding LUXE tickets). Quote 'ELLE' at the checkout.

Explore the life of a fashion insider at London Fashion Weekend with stylish shopping at exclusive prices from over 150 of the world's best brands, and catwalk shows from cutting-edge London Fashion Week designers.

CELEBRATE IT

PLUS, ELLE Insiders receive a free glass of Scavi & Ray prosecco at the bar**

**GO SHOPPING**

Shop the most stylish clothes and accessories from top brands such as Marcus Lupfer and Pringle of Scotland at the London Fashion Week Pop-Up Boutique.

**TALK TO THE EXPERTS**

Meet Net-a-Porter's Natalie Massenet, designers Bella Freud, Amanda Wakeley and Anya Hindmarch, and illustrator David Downton. Plus, get style tips from those in the know from Toni & Guy and Maybelline New York.

**BAG IT**

Hot London designer Mary Katrantzou has designed an exclusive tote bag, available at London Fashion Weekend only*.



LONDON FASHION WEEKEND

24-27 SEPTEMBER 2015

FINAL SAY RODARTE



Designer sisters Kate (right), 36, and Laura (left) Mulleavy, 35, share what inspires and motivates them



DESCRIBE YOUR AUTUMN/WINTER 2015 SHOW... Powerful, confident, feminine.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILL REQUIRED TO DO YOUR JOB? The ability to design clothes that make women look and feel beautiful.



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CRIED? Watching the fireworks at Disneyland.

DID YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE MODEL WALKING THIS SEASON?

ANNA EWERS

SHE IS AN INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL SPIRIT AND SO AMAZING TO WORK WITH EACH SEASON.



WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT? The books we are reading. Right now, mostly John Updike. **WHERE IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE?** Los Angeles – which we do.



WHAT WAS THE LAST TEXT YOU SENT? To each other: 'Totally the cat!'

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU AREN'T WORKING? Watch movies.*

* The movie-buff sisters not only designed the costumes for *Black Swan*, they are currently working on their own feature-length directorial debut, *Woodshock*, starring long-time friend Kirsten Dunst.

DO YOU HAVE A MUSE?

CALIFORNIA
AND ITS NATURAL
LANDSCAPE



ANY DABBING IN THE DARK ARTS? We are still obsessed with vampires.

IF YOU WEREN'T A DESIGNER YOU'D BE... Laura: A doctor. I was a biology major before transferring to English.

WORST PERSONALITY TRAIT We planned a trip to Italy. But we have obsessive personalities, and overplanned it so much we cancelled it.



WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR?

ALL THE MONET
COLOURS

YOU'VE GOT A STAR WARS COLLECTION

ARE YOU SECRET GEEKS? The films have become a part of who we are. They've melded with the collective consciousness of our cultural DNA.

WHAT IS YOUR WORST HABIT? Eating chocolate before bed.

DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT NIGHT OUT
Looking at the stars in the desert.





G-STAR RAW

J E A N S



how do you wear yours? g-star.com



BLACK OPIUM

YVES SAINT LAURENT

THE NEW EAU DE TOILETTE

yslbeauty.com

Edie Campbell